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Portrait And Biographical Album Of Vermilion County, Illinois

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Portrait and biographical
album of Vermilion County,
Illinois : (1889) 1981

Presented By

Ada Layton Lewis

Ada Layton Lewis
1606 West North Street
Springfield, OH 45504

PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM

—OF—

VERMILION COUNTY, ILLINOIS,

CONTAINING

Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens of the County

This portion taken from the book Portrait and Biographical album of Vermilion and Edgar Counties, Illinois

Reprinted and indexed by Illiana Genelogical and Historical Society
1981

CHICAGO:
CHAPMAN BROTHERS,
1889.

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INTRODUCTORY.

THE time has arrived when it becomes the duty of the people of this county to perpetuate the names of their pioneers, to furnish a record of their early settlement, and relate the story of their progress. The civilization of our day, the enlightenment of the age and the duty that men of the present time owe to their ancestors, to themselves and to their posterity, demand that a record of their lives and deeds should be made. In biographical history is found a power to instruct man by precedent, to enliven the mental faculties, and to waft down the river of time a safe vessel in which the names and actions of the people who contributed to raise this country from its primitive state may be preserved. Surely and rapidly the great and aged men, who in their prime entered the wilderness and claimed the virgin soil as their heritage, are passing to their graves. The number remaining who can relate the incidents of the first days of settlement is becoming small indeed, so that an actual necessity exists for the collection and preservation of events without delay, before all the early settlers are cut down by the scythe of Time.

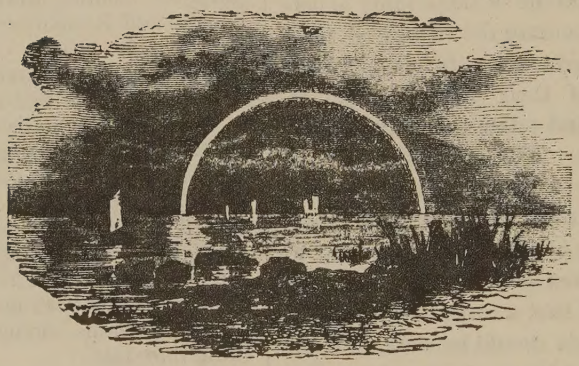
To be forgotten has been the great dread of mankind from remotest ages. All will be forgotten soon enough, in spite of their best works and the most earnest efforts of their friends to perserve the memory of their lives. The means employed to prevent oblivion and to perpetuate their memory has been in proportion to the amount of intelligence they possessed. The pyramids of Egypt were built to perpetuate the names and deeds of their great rulers. The exhumations made by the archeologists of Egypt from buried Memphis indicate a desire of those people to perpetuate the memory of their achievements. The erection of the great obelisks were for the same purpose. Coming down to a later period, we find the Greeks and Romans erecting mausoleums and monuments, and carving out statues to chronicle their great achievements and carry them down the ages. It is also evident that the Mound-builders, in piling up their great mounds of earth, had but this idea—to leave something to show that they had lived. All these works, though many of them costly in the extreme, give but a faint idea of the lives and characters of those whose memory they were intended to perpetuate, and scarcely anything of the masses of the people that then lived. The great pyramids and some of the obelisks remain objects only of curiosity; the mausoleums, monuments and statues are crumbling into dust.

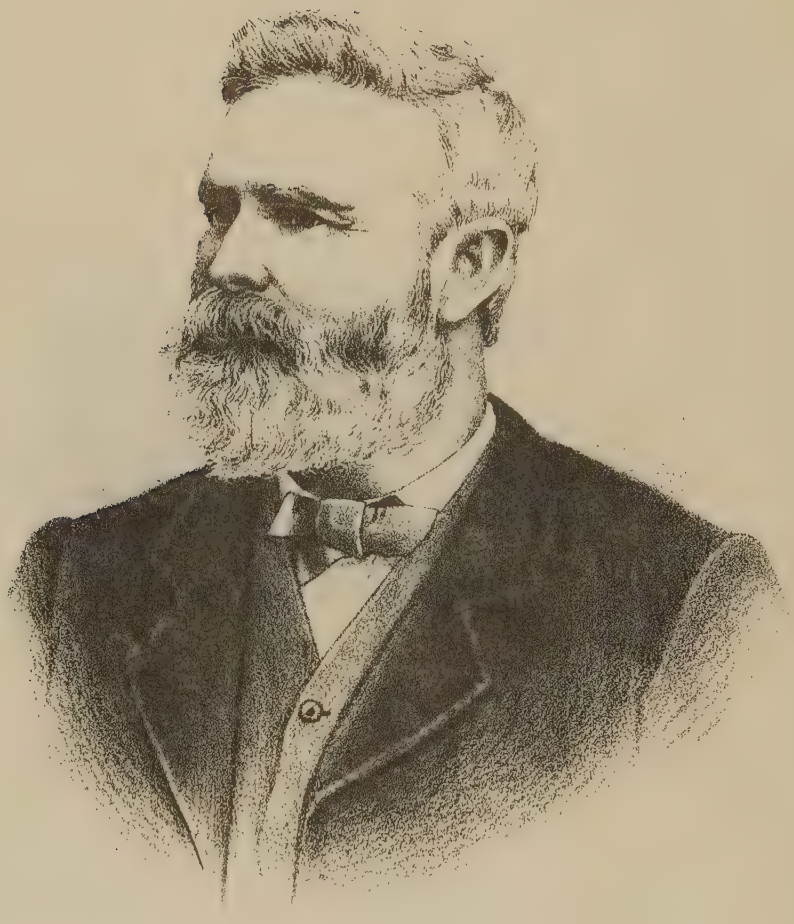
It was left to modern ages to establish an intelligent, undecaying, immutable method of perpetuating a full history—immutable in that it is almost unlimited in extent and perpetual in its action; and this is through the art of printing.

To the present generation, however, we are indebted for the introduction of the admirable system of local biography. By this system every man, though he has not achieved what the world calls greatness, has the means to perpetuate his life, his history, through the coming ages.

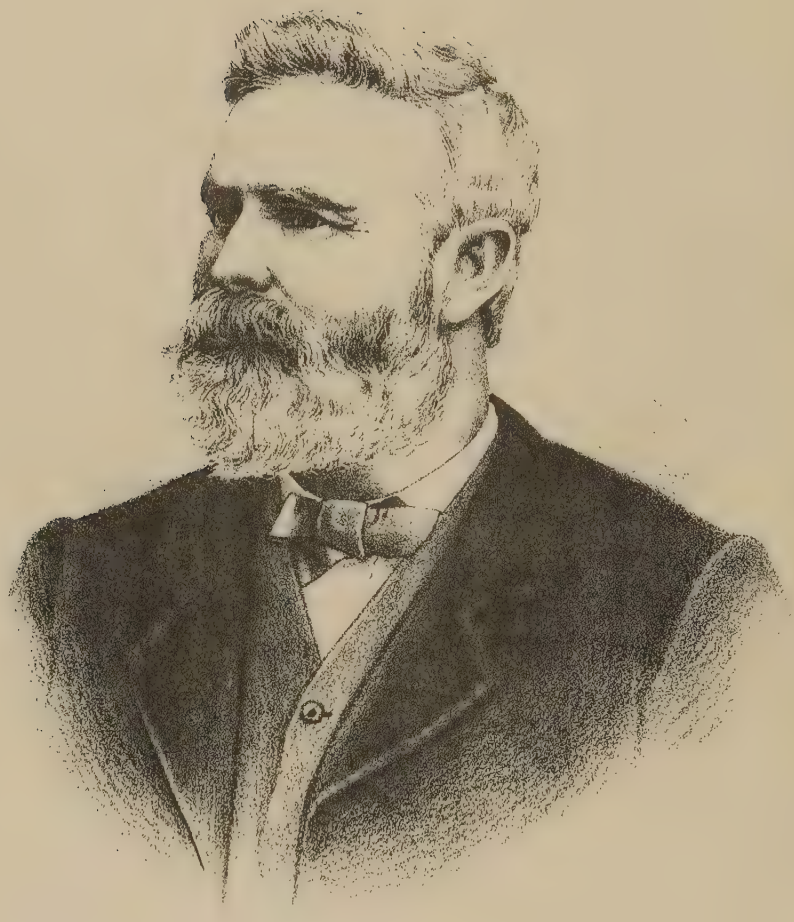
The scythe of Time cuts down all; nothing of the physical man is left. The monument which his children or friends may erect to his memory in the cemetery will crumble into dust and pass away; but his life, his achievements, the work he has accomplished, which otherwise would be forgotten, is perpetuated by a record of this kind.

To preserve the lineaments of our companions we engrave their portraits, for the same reason we collect the attainable facts of their history. Nor do we think it necessary, as we speak only truth of them, to wait until they are dead, or until those who know them are gone: to do this we are ashamed only to publish to the world the history of those whose lives are unworthy of public record.





Jas. S. Spence



Jas. S. Spence

BIOGRAPHICAL.

JAMES S. SCONCE. It is a fitting testimonial to the worth and character of this citizen to present his portrait and biography on these, the opening pages of the ALBUM of Vermilion County. Of the many citizens of Carroll Township none were better known or more highly esteemed than this gentleman, who was born near Brook's Point, Vermilion County, Nov. 14, 1831, and died Sept. 21, 1888, at the age of fifty-seven years. In childhood he attended the public schools, as well as those more advanced, at Danville, receiving a liberal education. His father and mother were Samuel and Nancy (Waters) Sconce, both natives of Bourbon County, Ky., the birth of the former occurring in 1802, while the mother was born six years later.

The elder Mr. and Mrs. Sconce removed to Illinois in 1828, and settled in Vermilion County in 1829. They had three children, who grew to maturity, namely: James S., America J., and Thomas J. America J., is the widow of Oliver Calvert, and now makes her home at the residence of her brother, lately deceased. Thomas J. died in this county, Jan. 1, 1888, while the father passed away in January, 1874. The mother is still living, with the widow of her son, at the advanced age of eighty-one years.

The Sconces were prominent in the early history of America, and more especially in Kentucky, of which State they were early settlers. The great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch was one of the earliest settlers of Bourbon County, where he lived in a log house, built especially to resist the depredations of the Indians. There were eight brothers, and they were among the brave settlers who reclaimed that beautiful country from the savages, and in so doing are entitled to the thanks of a grateful nation. Nearly all of these brothers emigrated South and West. There is a large family of this name in Texas. James S. Sconce's father, Samuel, was born in Bourbon County, Ky. He lived in the county of his birth until 1828, when he removed to this State, and in the following year located in Vermilion County. His wife came with her parents to the vicinity of Brook's Point, in 1829, her marriage occurring at that place the following year. Samuel Sconce engaged in farming, and from start to finish was successful. In 1852 he engaged in the mercantile business in Indianola, under the firm name of Bailey & Sconce. This firm continued to do business until the big fire, which destroyed their stock. Mr. Sconce then retired from active life, and died Jan. 9, 1874, leaving behind him a reputation of which any man might be proud. In 1849 he took a drove of 200 fat cattle to Philadelphia, where he sold half of them and drove the rest to New York, returning the entire distance on foot. He also hauled produce to Chicago in the early days.

On November 14, 1831, James S. Sconce was born, in this county, and was one of its first chil-

dren born. He was early taught industry, and being reared upon a farm was consequently used to hard work. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-four years of age, when he engaged as a clerk in the store of Bailey & Sconce, drawing a salary of $300 a year for four years. In 1859 he went to Kansas, where he pre-empted 160 acres in Lyon County, and at the end of three months he traded this piece of land for a similar tract in Illinois. Here commenced his career as a stockman and drover. During this time he made the acquaintance of his estimable wife, Miss Emma Sandusky, or as her father wrote it "Sodowsky." She was the only daughter of the well-known Shorthorn breeder of Carroll Township. After marriage Mr. Sconce lived one year with his father-in-law, when he located on the present homestead, remaining there until the day of his death. He worked systematically, and to this may be attributed his success. At any rate he became wealthy, and when he died was the owner of 2,100 acres of the most desirable land in the county. Upon this he built an elegant home, said to be the finest country house to be seen in the State. It is a large structure, built of brick, beautifully located on a slight elevation, while the surroundings are all that an admirer of the beautiful could picture. Giant trees shade the grounds, and what nature has omitted art has supplied. The lawns and gardens are laid out artistically, adding to the beauty and picturesqueness of the landscape, and making it a "thing of beauty" not excelled in this great State of Illinois. The place is called "Fairview," at the suggestion of Mrs. Sconce. The house is heated by the Rutan system, and every room is supplied with hot and cold water, while the spacious parlors and corridors are illuminated by gas.

When Mr. Sconce died he left a fortune variously estimated at from $200,000 to $300,000, every cent of which was accumulated by judicious farming and stock-raising. It will be many years before the recollection of this good man will fade from the memories of the people. His life was simple and his methods straightforward, his manner gentle, kind hearted to the poor, indulgent to the weak, charitable to the erring, and his memory like a sweet fragrance ascends on high. Generous friend, kind husband, noble citizen, and sincere Christian, the world is better for thy living, and the flowers of a sweet memory will ever blossom upon thy grave.

Like his illustrious ancestors Mr. Sconce was a fine looking, active man. He had keen blue eyes, a personal characteristic so marked in his family, and was of a sanguine temperament. A lifetime of usefulness and business activity had developed in him good judgment, and as he became older his attention was directed closely toward the things revealed in Holy Writ. He was a consistent and active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically, he was a Democrat from conviction and from principle. In 1882 he consented to run for the State Senate, making a brilliant canvass and running ahead of his ticket. He served as Township Supervisor, and always evinced a deep interest in public affairs, and especially in the welfare of his township, his county and his State. His library was filled with choice and valuable works, especially those treating upon the tariff, a question which was studied by him with deep interest, he believing with other leading Democrats, in a tariff for revenue only.

In matters pertaining to schools he took a great interest. For several years prior to his death he was a Regent of the Wesleyan University of Bloomington, Ill., which was financially favored by his generosity. As a husband and father he was most loving and devoted. As a result of his wedlock two children were born: Anna, who was a student of Morgan Park two years, and of Wesleyan University one year; and Harvey J., a bright lad of fourteen years. He was greatly attached to his children, and in them was centered his great love. The poor young farmer and business man, who is almost discouraged in life, will miss in Mr. Sconce a friend, for it was one of his salient characteristics to help those who would help themselves, and as an illustration of this, it may be stated that his will provided that those who owed him on loans, should be allowed to pay his estate in small yearly installments, that they might not be distressed.

He was buried with Masonic honors at the Woodlawn Cemetery. The funeral was attended by an

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immense throng, and the procession was headed by 200 Masons in mourning, and was over three miles in length, the largest funeral line ever seen in Vermilion County. It was remarked by one who knew Mr. Sconce well that "a secret society which commanded the fealty of a man like James Sconce must have something in it." If he loved Masonry it was equally true that the Masons loved him. To his faithful wife the death of her husband was sad beyond expression. "Sorrows come not single." A less noble woman would have given up to despairing sorrow at the loss of her husband, her father, and her mother within the space of one short year. Of true Christian grace and motherly heart she bore up bravely in her bereavement, fully determined henceforth to give up her life to her Master, and to the welfare of her children. As before stated she is the only living child of Harvey Sandusky and Susan Baum. Coming from illustrious ancestors, an effort will be made to herewith present a few facts in regard to each of her parents.

In the year of 1721 there came to America an exile from Poland, of noble birth and proud spirit, and lofty patriotism. He headed a rebellion against the despotism of Russia and her allies in the disgraceful oppression of the defeated but not subdued Poles. For this brave act he was exiled and came to Richmond, Va. That noble man was James Sodowsky, who afterward married the sister of Gov. Inslip, of the Colony of Virginia, and from them descended Harvey Sandusky, the father of Mrs. Sconce. Men of courage and force of character, the family has been represented in every forward movement of civilization in this great country for more than a century: with the gallant pioneers in beating back the savages of the wilderness; with the brave Continentals, battling for freedom in the heroic days of '76; at the front in the War of 1812; with Daniel Boone in the wild Kentucky, where the grandfather of Harvey settled just after the close of the Revolutionary War. His father, Abraham Sandusky, was born there, and married Miss Jane McDowell, who bore him eight children, Harvey being the eldest. In 1831 he removed from Kentucky to Illinois, and settled with his family on the Little Vermilion River, where he continued to reside until his death. His oldest son, Harvey, was born in Bourbon County, Ky., May 17, 1817, and came to Illinois with his father, literally growing up with the country. In his twenty-fourth year he was married to Susan, daughter of Charles and Susan Baum, who had emigrated from Ohio and settled on the Little Vermilion River. After marriage Mr. Sandusky located on the estate which has since become so famous as "Woodlawn Stock Farm." Here, by intelligent and industrious use of their opportunities, he and his faithful wife built up a princely home, and surrounded it with an abundance that enabled them to dispense the largest charity and most unbounded hospitality. Mrs. Sandusky was converted to Christianity in her girlhood, and rejoiced in the hope of an immortal life.

In the old family Bible is found this record: "Harvey Sodowsky this day found peace with God, March 15, 1858." For forty years their's was a house of prayer. To them were born three children: The oldest died in infancy; the second is Emma, the wife of the subject of this sketch; Gilbert, the third child and only son, died at the early age of twenty-three years. Harvey Sandusky died on Saturday, Dec. 18, 1886, and the following Tuesday was buried by the side of his son in the beautiful Woodlawn Cemetery, which he had selected and donated to the public. "Uncle Harvey," as he was familiarly called, was in many respects a noble man. There is always good in a heart that is always tender, and his was a very tender heart. To feed the hungry, to clothe and help the needy, afforded him the greatest pleasure. The foot-sore itinerant, whose horse had died, was taken to the stables and told to "select the best nag in the lot," without pay or promise. That preacher was sent on his way rejoicing, and thereby the Gospel was spread to those beyond. By him the homeless were sheltered, the friendless cheered, and the wretched soothed.

He was a very successful man in business, was enterprising and public spirited. In the stalls and on the fields at Woodlawn are perhaps the finest specimens of Short-horn cattle in America, if not in the world. For fifty years he had been interested in raising and exhibiting fine stock. No man in America has been more successful than he, as the

premium lists of principal fairs will show. Evidently he has added untold riches to the general community by his enterprise in this particular. But his work is done, and the toils of his busy life have ceased. The familiar figure has dropped out of the picture of this life, and let us hope that it has dropped into the life that lies beyond the other shore. His home is lonely without him, his family mourn him, his neighbors will miss him, his friends regret his absence, but "God doeth all things well."—(Extract from the Rev. G. A. Frasier.) His wife, Susan Sandusky, came from an equally illustrious family. She was the daughter of Charles and Sarah (Moyer) Baum. They were likewise Polish patriots, and by the Russian authorities banished from their native land. They for a few years lived in Germany, and then emigrated to the Colony of Virginia. This noble exile and progenitor of the Baums of Vermilion County, was Charles Baum, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Emma Sconce. He married Miss Barbara McDonald, a relative of the brave Gen. McDonald, of Marion's army. He entered the Colonial forces, and served on reserve duty in protecting the frontier. After the war he settled in Bucks County, and the year following Wayne's treaty with the Indians, sailed down the Ohio River with his family. They landed at the mouth of Bullskin Creek, and there, close to what is now the river town of Chilo, established the first settlement in the Territory of Ohio. One of his sons was Charles Baum, Mrs. Sconce's grandfather. He married Susan, daughter of John Moyer, a Revolutionary soldier, who fought many years under the immediate command of Gen. Washington.

John Moyer lived in Pennsylvania some time after the war, then removed to Ohio, of which State he also was an early pioneer. Charles Baum, the grandsire of Mrs. Sconce, came to Vermilion County in 1839. He lived to be ninety-six years old, had prospered well, and was a consistent Christian. From the Rev. G. A. Frasier we quote the following concerning Mrs. Susan Sandusky. "Our community is again called to mourn the loss of a most estimable lady, who fell asleep at her home near Indianola, March 21, 1888. She was a daughter of Charles and Susan Baum, born in Claremont County, Ohio, Sept. 25, 1818. She was converted and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church when quite young, and was married May 20, 1840. Her life was singularly pure and exemplary, and she adorned those stations in which true womanhood shines the brightest. As a wife, mother, friend and neighbor she was indeed a model woman. None doubted the genuineness of her Christian experience. Always consistent, always true, she was a power for good in the community. Her charities and uniform kindness for the poor had won for her the love of all who knew her. Her devotion to duty, and her unswerving fidelity had won the confidence and esteem of all. She was not only ready, but willing to die. In a conversation a few days before her death she expressed a desire to 'reach her Father's house.' She leaves but one child to mourn her absence from the old homestead. Mrs. James S. Sconce, the only remaining child was with her mother during her last illness, faithfully, lovingly attending to every want, and tearfully watching the slowly ebbing tide of life till all was still in death. In this great bereavement Mrs. Sconce has the sympathy of the entire community. The old homestead is left desolate. A family has passed from earth. We hope that on the other side of the river they are again united."

Mrs. Emma Sconce was born in the old Harvey Sandusky homestead, better known under the name of "Woodlawn," a name suggested by her for her father's large farm, which was so famous in producing herds of prize-winning Short-horn cattle. Here she grew up under the influences of a Christian home, attending Georgetown Academy for some time. Her loyalty has marked her entire career from childhood to widowhood. As the wife of James S. Sconce she was ever a most worthy, affectionate, and loving companion; as mistress of the "Fairview" mansion she is modest, kind, generous and hospitable; while the taste with which the mansion is furnished reflects great credit upon its mistress. She possesses a great deal of knowledge, general and special, and is respected and esteemed by all who know her. She is a devout Christian, and rich and poor alike are graced by her favors. She deeply mourns the loss of her

husband, for their marriage proved to be a most happy one. She is truly the type of noble American womanhood, and as a mother is fairly worshipped by her two children, and they in turn are held most affectionately dear. Her modesty prevents her giving further facts in regard to herself. Her attorney, however, has furnished the following figures concerning her estate: Personal property of James S. Sconce, deceased, $62,000; personal property of Harvey Sandusky, deceased, $20,000; total number of acres of land held by Mrs. Sconce, 3,600.

HIRAM ARMANTROUT. In no portion of the world is there illustrated the result of patient industry more forcibly than in the great West. Could the young man of fifty years ago have had the power to look forward into the future and discover not only what he himself would accomplish, but what would be done by his brother pioneers, he would have labored with greater courage than he has already done; for no one can dispute that the first settling up of this part of the country was necessarily an experiment. Few however, stood in doubt as to the final result, but fewer still would have prophesied the achievements which have really been accomplished.

The subject of this sketch was one of the earliest settlers of Middle Fork Township, whence he removed to Butler Township in April, 1855. He took up a half-section of government land, embracing a part of sections 2, 22 and 13, in township 22, range 13, before there had been any attempt at cultivation. In the fall of 1856 he put up a small frame house, and being unmarried, took in a tenant, with whom he lived. He had, prior to this, broken sixty acres. He proceeded with the improvements of his property single-handed until the spring of 1859, when he took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Celinda Pugh. They spent the first few years of their wedded life in the little house, and in due time, being prospered, our subject was enabled to erect a larger dwelling. He also built a good barn and planted forest and fruit trees, which flourished, and he now has the finest grove in the neighborhood. He occupied this farm until March, 1889, when he wisely retired from active labor and purchased property in Rossville, where he took up his abode and purposes now to live.

Our subject was born in Montgomery County, Ind., Aug. 12, 1829, and lived there until 1855 with his father and mother. The former, Valentine Armantrout, was born in Rockingham County, Va., April 27, 1799, and removed with his father, Frederick Armantrout, to Warren County, Ohio, in 1808, where he was reared to manhood. He married Miss Catherine Kesling, and they sojourned in the Buckeye State until 1828, when they removed to Montgomery County, Ind. There the father engaged in farming and blacksmithing combined, and lived until his decease, which took place March 17, 1846.

To the parents of our subject were born seven children, of whom he was the third, and of whom four are living: Ambrose is a resident of Chautauqua County, Kan.; Simon lives in Waynetown, Montgomery Co., Ind.; Sarah became the wife of C. S. Bratton, of Rossville, and she is now deceased. Mary Ann is the wife of James Applegate, of this county; Melinda died at the age of seventeen years; Henry died in Linn County, Kan., in 1887. The paternal grandfather was a resident of Virginia during the Revolutionary War, in which his father and two brothers fought, while he remained at home. He was drafted, but Washington sent him home. The family is of German descent, and the first representative in this country settled in Virginia.

At the time of leaving Butler Township Mr. Armantrout was its oldest living male resident. One lady, Mrs. Pyles, had been there one year longer than himself. As a farmer he was more than ordinarily successful, and also prosecuted stock-raising with excellent results. He was prominent in local affairs, being the first Road Commissioner in the township, in which office he served eleven years. He officiated as Constable four years, was Justice of the Peace seven years, School Trustee nine years, and School Director for a long period. Politically, he is a Republican.

Of the six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Armantrout, the third child, a son, Harmon, died when

one year old. The survivors are Scott, Celia M., Drusilla, Carrie and Ida. Scott married Miss Emma Walters, and lives on the home farm; Celia May is the wife of Ira G. Philips, and the mother of one child, a daughter, Mabel; they live near the homestead. The others are unmarried and remain with their parents. Mrs. Celinda (Pugh) Armantrout was born in Warren County, Ind., Aug. 26, 1833, and is the daughter of George Pugh, who was a native of Pennsylvania. He married Miss Elizabeth Anderson, and they reared a large family of children. He followed farming his entire life, and after leaving his native State settled near Lebanon, in Warren County, Ind., where he spent his last days. His death occurred about 1864, at the age of seventy years.

OLIVER HARRISON CRANE. The leading event in the life of this gentleman was his birth, which occurred in Fountain County, Ind., on the 4th of March, 1841, the day of the inauguration of President William Henry Harrison, and in honor of whom the infant was given his second name. He is now a man of forty-eight years, and one of the most substantial farmers of Grant Township, being the owner of 160 acres of choice land, pleasantly located on section 29, township 23, range 12.

Mr. Crane spent the first eighteen years of his life in his native county, acquiring a practical education in the common schools and becoming familiar with farm pursuits. In the fall of 1859, leaving the parental roof, he came to this county and assumed charge of the land which his father had entered from the Government at $1.25 per acre. He boarded at the house of a neighbor until the spring of 1861; then put up a house into which he removed with his young wife, having been married Feb. 7 of that year to Miss Charlotte Bowling of his own county in Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Crane, although removing into a more modern domicile, have occupied the same farm which they moved upon at the time of their marriage. Their labors and struggles have been similar to those of the people around them; their rewards likewise. Industry and economy have been repaid fourfold, and now, in the enjoyment of all the comforts of life and many of its luxuries, they sit under their own vine and fig tree and are blest with the respect of their friends and neighbors. For some time after Mr. Crane settled here there were no neighbors north for fifteen miles, the nearest being at Ash Grove. Deer, wolves and other wild animals were plentiful, but these slowly disappeared as the country became settled up.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Crane, eleven in number, are recorded as follows: The two eldest died in infancy; Elmer E. was born May 28, 1865; John N., Sept. 3, 1867; Lillian L., Jan. 6, 1870; Alfaretta, Feb. 11, 1872; Winifred, Dec. 4, 1873; Morris S., Nov. 2, 1876; Mary A., June 24, 1879; Perry D., Jan. 28, 1883; Anna M., Oct. 23, 1885. The eldest son living, Elmer, married Miss Olive Keplinger, is a resident of Northwest Nebraska and the father of two children. Mrs. Charlotte (Bowling) Crane was born July 3, 1843, in Fountain County, Ind., and is the daughter of Willis P. and Mary (Bruce) Bowling, who were natives of Ohio. The father was born in Warren County, Jan. 25, 1816, and lived there until a lad of eight years. His parents then removed to Indiana, and after the death of his father in Fountain County he continued on the farm, where he reared his family and spent his last days. This farm is located in Van Buren Township six miles northeast of Covington. The maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Crane was Mary Bruce, and the parents were married in 1838. Of the eight children born to them three are living—Charlotte, Arthur and Morris. The two boys live at the old farm in Fountain County, Ind., with their father. The latter, with his estimable wife, is a member of the Christian Church, and the family stand high in their community.

Mrs. Mary (Bruce) Bowling was born in Lawrence County, Ohio, Jan. 21, 1817, to Joshua and Margaret (Innes) Bruce, the father a farmer by occupation. When Mary was a girl of eleven years, they left the Buckeye State and removed to Fountain County, Ind., where she remained under the parental roof until her marriage.

Joel Crane, the father of our subject, was born Jan. 28, 1817, in Warren County, Ohio, near the

birthplace of Mr. Bowling. He lived there until 1832, and then, a lad of fifteen years, migrated to Fountain County, Ind., with his parents, where he was married and still lives on the old farm northeast of Covington which his father took up from the Government. His wife was formerly Miss Elizabeth Jenkins, and they reared a family of three children—Oliver H., Lewis C. and Cyrus, the latter two of Missouri and Kansas respectively. Mrs. Elizabeth (Jenkins) Crane was born Dec. 5, 1820, in Ohio, and departed this life at the homestead in Indiana Sept. 2, 1853. She left the Buckeye State with her parents in 1839 and remained with them until her marriage.

Mr. Crane, our subject, has been a man always full of business and one who has little respect for the drones in the world's busy hive. He has kept himself well posted upon events of general interest, and is one with whom may be spent an hour very pleasantly and profitably. His course in life has been that of an honest man, while his industry has been rewarded with a competence.

CHARLES BUHL. This gentleman occupies no unimportant position among the self-made men of this county who have arisen by their own efforts from the foot of the ladder and who by unflagging industry and perseverance have accumulated a competence and in their later years are retired and in the enjoyment of it. Mr. Buhl represents a goodly amount of property—indeed is recognized as a capitalist—and has contributed his full quota to the business interests of Danville and vicinity. He comes of substantial ancestry and is a native of Pennsylvania, having been born in Butler County, Feb. 8, 1812.

Our subject remained a resident of his native place until a young man of twenty years, acquiring a practical education in the common school and being variously occupied. Finally resolving upon a change of location, he made his way in 1838, to Detroit and for two years thereafter employed himself as a teamster. In the fall of 1848, he visited Chicago and being favorably impressed with the outlook, established himself in the hat, cap and fur business on Lake street, second door west of Clark street where he operated successfully until about 1850. Then selling out he invested the proceeds in a farm of 697 acres, embracing the present site of Kensington and which he secured for the sum of $5,000. Nine months later he sold the bottom land—about 300 acres—to the Michigan Central Railway for the price which he had paid for the whole. For about ten years thereafter he engaged in farming, and then sold out and coming to Danville invested a portion of his capital here where he has since made his home.

Mr. Buhl has been engaged in different enterprises since coming to Danville. He invested a portion of his capital in the lots embracing Nos. 117 to 123 on East Main street where he has put up buildings, the rents from which yield him a handsome income. He has at different times owned considerable land in the county and has now eighteen acres of valuable land just outside the city limits. Although a sound Republican politically he has never sought office, but was twice elected to represent his ward in the City Council and has served as a member of the School Board. From these, however, he withdrew before the expiration of his term. During the Civil War his son Sidney served as a soldier in the Union Army.

Mr. Buhl was married in Pennsylvania July 9, 1834, to Miss Eliza Ann McConaughy, and they became the parents of six children, four of whom are living, namely: Sidney, Frank, Emma and Laura. Mrs. Buhl was born in New Lisbon, Ohio, Jan. 1, 1820, and is the daughter of James and Elizabeth McConaughy, with whom she lived in the Buckeye State until her marriage. Mr. McC., was a farmer by occupation and the parental household included ten children—four sons and six daughters. Sidney Buhl, the only son of our subject married Miss Sally Myers and they have one child, a daughter, Georgia; he is in the employ of the American Express Company. Frank is a resident of Louisiana where he operates a fruit farm and nursery; Emma is the wife of William Myers, to whom she was married Jan. 4, 1888; Mr. M., is employed as a carriage salesman and they live in Danville. Laura was married June 5, 1883, to Mr. John Lawrence, a boot and shoe merchant, located

at 117 East Main street. The daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Christian Buhl, the father of our subject, was a native of Germany, and came to America when a young man, and settled near Zeleinople, Pa., where he engaged in the manufacture of hats. He also became the owner of considerable land and spent the remainder of his life in that vicinity. He had married Miss Fredrika Géaring and they reared a family of ten children, of whom Charles was about the fifth in order of birth, and of whom seven are now living. Mr. Buhl died in Pennsylvania at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. His wife survived him three years and was also eighty-seven years old at the time of her decease.

JOHN W. BANDY, junior member of the firm of Smith & Bandy, druggists, is also owner of the Bandy Block on Vermilion street, Danville, and is well-known to the citizens of the city and vicinity as representing some of its most important business interests. He is a native of this place and was born April 8, 1844. Of his father, William Bandy, one of the earliest pioneers of this county and an aged veteran of seventy-seven years, a sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume.

The first four years of the life of our subject were spent upon a farm and then the family removed to Danville, where John W., acquired a practical education in the common schools. When approaching manhood he entered the office of the Danville *Plaindealer*, then under the control of John Leslie and with whom he remained until the office was purchased by Judge Daniel Clapp. Young Bandy continued with the latter until 1864. That year he began the study of medicine with Dr. Samuel Humphrey as preceptor and after a time began practicing to a certain extent. He, however, concluded that he was better adapted to some other business than that of a physician, which resolution was strengthened by his failing health. He spent three or four years in recuperating and in 1872 engaged as clerk in the store of E. E. Boudinot about five years. At the expiration of this time he was admitted to partnership with his employer. Three years later he sold out to Mr. E. G. Smith, a native of Danville, and the only surviving member of the family of Giles Smith. These gentlemen have been in partnership since that time and Mr. Bandy has been in the store since 1872. Mr. Bandy is a gentleman of great energy and enterprise, and has accumulated a good property, including one of the finest brick blocks on North Vermilion street which was erected in 1887, and is equipped with all modern improvements.

Mr. Bandy was married in Danville, Sept. 28, 1864, to Miss Margaret Humphrey, who became the mother of one child and who died together with the child in 1865. Our subject contracted a second matrimonial alliance with Miss Mary A. Campbell, of Lafayette, Ind., Aug. 29, 1879. Of this union there was one child, a son, Claude W., who was born Aug. 29, 1880, and is still living. Mrs. Mary A. (Campbell) Bandy was born June 1, 1853, about fifteen miles southeast of Logansport, Ind., and spent her childhood and youth in Indiana. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bandy are members of good standing of the Kimber Methodist Episcopal Church. Until about 1865 Mr. Bandy voted with the Republican party but has since that time affiliated with the Democracy. He has never had any ambition for office, preferring to give his best efforts to his business affairs. His home comprises a neat residence in the northeast part of the city and as the son of a prominent family he occupies no secondary position in social and business circles.

HENRY L. BUSHNELL is one of the leading and successful business men of Hoopeston. He is the proprietor of the North Elevator, which has a capacity of 75,000 bushels. He also owns several other large elevators on the line of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. He is also general agent for the Brazil Block Coal Company, handling from 2,500 to 3,000 cars yearly, besides his local trade.

Mr. Bushnell was born Oct. 2, 1843, near what is now Dunlap, Ill., and there remained with his father until he left school to enter the army. He enlisted

on July 2, 1862, in Company E, 77th Illinois Infantry. This regiment was assigned to the 13th Army Corps, originally under Gen. Smith, but which was latterly under the command of Gen. Banks, and participated in the battles of Black River, Jackson, Champion Hill, Black River Bridge, the siege of Vicksburg, and also in the entire campaign which resulted in the opening of the Mississippi River. At Vicksburg he was wounded on the 22d of May, 1863, in the left knee, after which he was in the field hospital until his recovery. The last seventeen months of the service he was Second Lieutenant of his company. While on the expedition with Banks up the Red River, he was captured at Mansfield, La., April 8, 1864, and taken to Camp Ford, Tyler, Tex., and was there held until the close of the war. While a prisoner of war he suffered untold hardships, which impaired his health, the effects of which he feels to this day. After his release he joined his regiment at Mobile, Ala., January, 1865, but remained there but a few days when he proceeded to St. Louis, where he was properly exchanged. Here he was detailed on Gen. Dodge's staff, remaining on this duty until Aug. 1, when he was mustered out of the service having served for several months more than his regular enlistment. After leaving the army he returned to Peoria, Ill., and engaged in the lumber business with his father. In this he continued for some time, having an extensive trade, and becoming accustomed to railroad business in the mean time, he was appointed Assistant General Freight Agent of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, with headquarters at Terre Haute. He continued in this capacity for five years, when in July 1883, he resigned and removed to Hoopeston where he has since been engaged in business, and it is not too broad an assertion to state that he transacts more business than any other man in Eastern Illinois.

Mr. Bushnell has served his city as Mayor for two terms and for one term has been an Alderman. He has also served five years on the Board of Education, of which he is now President. He has never aspired to office but his great business talents are always in request by his neighbors, and he cannot see his way clear to refuse them. He is a hard-working Republican, is recognized as a leader in his party, and can be found attending all its conventions and gatherings. He is a member of the First Baptist Church and has been a Sunday-school Superintendent for twenty years.

On September 18, 1867, Mr. Bushnell married Miss Hattie A. Littell, of Peoria, and they have become the parents of ten children, two of whom only are living, six dying of diphtheria. The living are William F., who was born Jan. 25, 1872 and Jessie A., April 21, 1883. Mrs. Bushnell was born in New York City, March 18, 1844 and is the daughter of Isaac Littell, who came West in 1855. In closing this brief sketch, it is proper to say that there are no more popular people in this section of the country than Mr. and Mrs. Bushnell.

CHARLES M. BAUM, a native of this county, may usually be found at his well-regulated homestead on section 25. Besides general agriculture, he is largely interested in the breeding of draft horses and has been of signal service in elevating the standard of horse flesh in this part of the State. Active, energetic and industrious, he is a scion of the pioneer element which located in this county at an early day and assisted largely in its growth and development.

There are some interesting facts connected with the family history of Mr. Baum which cannot by any means be properly omitted from this sketch. His father, Samuel Baum, a farmer by occupation, was born twenty-five miles south of the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, and was the son of Charles Baum, supposed to have been born in Pennsylvania, whence he removed first to Ohio and later to Illinois. He was a gunsmith by trade, but after coming to this country occupied himself mostly as a farmer, and died at the advanced age of ninety-eight years. Three of his seven children are yet living, and Samuel, the father of our subject, was the oldest of the family. Samuel Baum came to Illinois as early as 1828, and located on the Little Vermilion, near the present site of Indianola. The country then was very thinly settled and Vermilion County was considered quite a frontier. The

journey was made overland in a Dearborn wagon, and they brought with them a bug-horned cow tied behind the wagon. The incidents of that long and wearisome journey, during which they camped and cooked by the wayside and slept in the wagons at night, and the after experiences, replete with toil and privation, if properly related, would fill a good-sized volume.

The parents of our subject, however, possessed the hardy spirit requisite in the pioneers of '28 and entered with courage upon the task set before them. The mother was in her girlhood Miss Sarah Weaver, daughter of Michael Weaver, who also came to this county in 1828, and the young people were married in Ohio. Mr. Weaver prior to this time had served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and was greatly prospered as a tiller of the soil of Illinois, becoming one of Vermilion County's wealthiest men. Mrs. Baum was the eldest of the eight children comprising the parental family, of whom only two are now living.

The parents of our subject were married in 1823. Samuel Baum became a very successful farmer, the owner of 1,400 acres of land, and devoted himself largely to stock-raising. After the labors of a well spent life he departed hence in March, 1861. The mother had passed to the silent land fourteen years previously, in 1847. Of the ten children born to them seven are still living. Charles M. was the sixth child and was born Dec. 22, 1838, at the old homestead near Indianola. He pursued his first studies in the district school and in due time entered Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College, Indianapolis, from which he was graduated and at the age of twenty-two years began work for himself on his father's farm.

Our subject operated as a general agriculturist two years, then for one year turned his attention to shipping stock. In the meantime he went into Texas and purchased 500 Texas cattle, which he drove through the Indian Territory, in 1866, to Chicago, consuming eight months on the journey. He disposed of his stock, then returning to Newtown, this county, embarked in the mercantile business for two and one-half years. He then purchased ground for a sawmill and in company with Robert Craig put up the necessary building, equipping it with machinery and operated the mill for two years. Then selling out he resumed his former business as a live stock shipper and afterward farmed again for about two years.

About this time Mr. Baum became interested in fine horses and began importing Clydesdales from Canada and was thus occupied two years. Afterwards he began breeding fine horses, for which his well-equipped farm of 200 acres affords every convenience. He has thirty head mostly Clydesdales, including the Knight of Colander, imported by Galbraith Bros., of Janesville, Wis., and a very valuable registered mare imported by himself. Mr. Baum's horses are gaining an enviable reputation in this part of the State.

On the 22d of March, 1869, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary J., daughter of William and Emily (Vanderin) Craig, who were among the pioneer settlers of this county. Of this union there have been born five children: Grace, Ernest, Katie, Charles and Frank, all of whom are at home with their parents. Mr. Baum has been active in politics since becoming a voting citizen, and is proud to record the fact that his first Presidential candidate was the martyred President, Abraham Lincoln. He keeps himself well posted upon the political issues of the day, and for twelve years has officiated as School Director in his district. He is President of the Newtown Horse and Cattle Fair and a member of the Clydesdale American Association, also for the Newtown Horse Protector Association. He has been for the last three years a Road Commissioner. It will thus be seen that he has made a good record as a citizen and is amply worthy of representation in the BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM of Vermilion County.

ELLIS ADAMS. The history to which our attention is now directed is that of a man possessing some admirable traits of character and one whose course in life has been such as to command the esteem and confidence of all who have known him. During the vicissitudes of life he has spent many years in arduous labor, has handled probably a million dollars in money, has

dealt honestly and fairly by his fellow-men and should reap a large measure of consolation from the fact that comparatively few have made personally so clean and admirable record. There are few who have not experienced adversity in their struggle with the world, some more and some less, and while with some it has had the effect to make them sour and cynical, others have learned wisely from the lesson and in this respect at least come off conquerors in the struggle. Nature endowed Mr. Adams with those qualities of mind and heart, which have enabled him to make the best of circumstances and leave the rest to Providence.

The native place of our subject was not far from the New England coast in Sussex County, N. J., his birth occurring Sept. 25, 1817. He commenced the battle of life for himself at the early age of fourteen years, clerking in a store from that time until a young man of twenty. He then accompanied his father's family to Virginia and remained on a farm in the Old Dominion for a period of five years. Then leaving the parental roof he emigrated to Orange County, N. Y., where he was employed as clerk in the grocery store of Mr. Reeve in Goshen. Two years later he established himself as a general merchant at Unionville in the same county and sold goods there for fifteen years.

Mr. Adams finally becoming wearied of mercantile pursuits concluded he would seek the farther West and settle upon a farm. Coming to this county, in 1857, he purchased 480 acres of land south of Fairmount and put up the largest residence in this vicinity. Thereafter he occupied himself at farming and merchandising until 1886, when on the account of the failing health of his wife he removed to Kansas, living there with a daughter one year and then returned to this county.

Our subject in 1844 was united in marriage with Miss Amanda R., a daughter of Samuel King of Pennsylvania and a prominent farmer in his neighborhood. The ceremony took place at the home of the bride's mother in Philadelphia. This union resulted in the birth of three children, the eldest of whom, Frank A., was married and died leaving his widow with two children. Anna is the wife of Stanley Conklin, a member of the firm of Jarvis, Conklin & Co., in Kansas City, Mo., and they have two children. George C., married Miss Nellie, daughter of Hiram Catlett of Vance Township, and they have two children. Mrs Adams has been sorely afflicted with rheumatism, being in feeble health for the past twenty years and in 1884 was stricken with total blindness. She and her children are members of the Baptist Church in which Mr. Adams has been a Deacon for thirty years. In politics, Mr. Adams was first a Whig and later a Democrat. Although seventy-two years old he is in the enjoyment of good health and although having met with many reverses maintains the cheerful and genial disposition which has always attracted to him numbers of warm friends. He appreciates the importance of preserving the family record and a few years ago wrote up a complete history of his life placing it in the hands of his son.

The father of our subject was Joseph Adams, a native of New Jersey and a farmer by ocupation. He married Miss Martha Post, a native of New Jersey and they lived there until 1839. Then disposing of their interests in that State they removed to Spottsylvania County, Va., where the mother died at the age of fifty-two years. Joseph Adams spent his last years in Virginia and departed this life in July, 1845.

The parental household included eleven children, all of whom lived to mature years. Grandfather Adams was a prominent man in Sussex County, N. J. and held the position of Judge for some years.

THOMAS D. McKEE, of Oakwood Township, has for years been prominent in business circles, operating as lawyer, banker and farmer. His home is located on section 15, and the farm is chiefly devoted to stock-raising, an industry which has always proved profitable in this section. Mr. McKee was born in New York State June 9, 1833, at the old homestead of his parents, John C. and Jeanette (Stewart) McKee, the former of whom was a native also of the Empire State, and the mother of Scotland.

John C. McKee was born in 1809, and died at the age of seventy-six years. The paternal grand-

father, Thomas McKee, was born about 1784 in Dryden, Tompkins Co., N. Y., where he spent his entire life, dying at the age of sixty-two years. The great-grandfather, James McKee, was born in the North of Ireland, and died at the age of ninety-six years. Grandfather John Stewart married a Miss McIntosh and emigrated to America, settling near Dryden, N. Y., where he engaged in farming and died at the age of sixty-two years. Thomas D. had the privilege of seeing all three of the old veterans.

The parents of our subject were married in New York State, and afterwards lived upon the same farm which still remains in the family, and which is located on the old State Road four and one-half miles from Cortland, between the latter place and Ithica. The mother passed away in 1877, and the father in 1885. Their family consisted of eleven children, all of whom grew to mature years, and of whom our subject is the eldest. Thomas D., like his brothers and sisters, attended the village school at McLean, and later was a student in Cortland Academy at Homer, N. Y. He prosecuted his law studies in the State and National Law School at Poughkeepsie under the presidency of J. W. Fowler, from which he was graduated and then set out for the West.

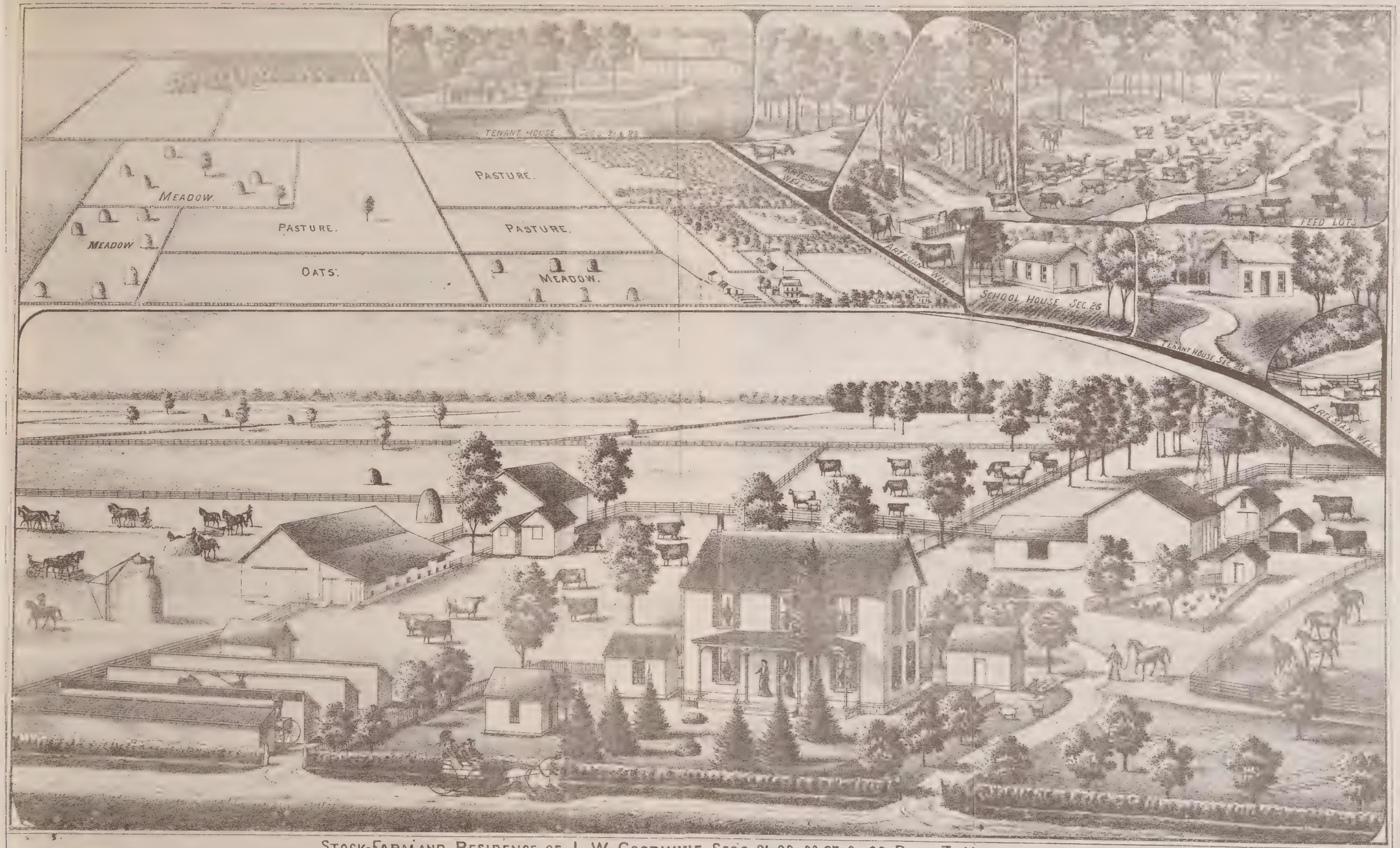
Mr. McKee left his home in New York State in 1855, and going to Maysville, Wis., taught school there six months. Prior to this before leaving his native State he had been similarly occupied at South Cortland. In 1857 he went to Faribault, Minn., and platted Morristown together with several other towns. He then migrated to St. Louis, Mo., and from there to Leavenworth, Kan., during the days of the troubles in the latter State and witneesed many scenes of violence, enacted on the soil of "bleeding Kansas." In that State he operated as a surveyor, and taught the first school established at Atchison. After a two-year's sojourn in that region he returned home, completed his law course in Poughkeepsie, and, in 1861, returning to Illinois, established himself at Homer, Champaign County, and began the practice of his chosen profession.

The next important event in the life of our subject was his marriage with Miss Mary Groenendyke, and six or seven years afterwards the newly wedded pair established themselves at their present home stead. While at Homer Mr. McKee, in company with D. S. Pratt, established the bank at Homer, and later our subject purchased the interest of his partner therein. That same year through the speculation of his clerk the bank was obliged to close its doors. This individual had been trusted implicitly without bonds, and had made away with $23,000 in cash.

Subsequently Mr. McKee became interested in farming pursuits and began operations on 240 acres of land, which amount has been augmented so that the farm now embraces 680 acres all in one body. It is all in productive condition, but largely devoted to stock-raising—forty to fifty cattle in a year, about 200 head of swine and numbers of very fine imported Belgium horses.

To Mr. and Mrs. McKee there were born five children, four of whom are living: Samuel G., Stewart T., Mallie and John, all at home with their parents. Our subject has been for many years the School Director in his district, and has served on the School Board in Homer for six years. He was President of the Town Board there for several terms, and it was largely through his influence that sidewalks were laid and shade trees were planted. He also labored assiduously in suppressing the liquor traffic. He votes the straight Republican ticket, and is uniformly in favor of those measures tending to elevate society and advance the interests of the people. Mrs. McKee is a very capable and estimable lady, with a good talent for business and is a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church.

Samuel Groenendyke, the father of Mrs. McKee, was born in Seneca County, N. Y., in 1803, and married Miss Lacy Thompson, of Cumberland County, Pa. In 1821 he removed with his family to the vicinity of Terre Haute, Ind., and thence to Vermillion County, Ind., where he established his permanent home. He finally became the owner of nearly 2,000 acres of land. Later he established himself as a general merchant at Eugene, and also had a branch store at Homer, Ill. He was very industrious and enterprising, and was the first pork-packer in his locality. He aided largely in encouraging the various industries of the new country.



STOCK-FARM AND RESIDENCE OF J. W. GOODWINE, SECS. 21, 22, 26, 27 & 28. PILOT TP, VERMILION CO.

and was prominent in his community, being especially well known by the old settlers. The parental family included three children, two daughters and a son, Samuel, who is now a resident of Eugene.

JOHN W. GOODWINE is one of the leading farmers and stock-growers of Vermilion County, and the owner of one of its largest and most valuable farms, finely located in the township of Pilot, his substantial residence, with its attractive surroundings, being situated on section 26. He is the son of a former well known prosperous pioneer of this section of the country, who was in his day an extensive land owner, and did much toward developing the vast agricultural resources of the county.

The father was a native of Kentucky, of English descent, his parents having been early pioneers of that State. In 1810 he went to Bartholomew County, Ind., and was among its earliest settlers, subsequently removing from there to Warren County in the same State. In 1826 he came to Warren County while it was still in the hands of the pioneers, and located on government land, buying at that time 200 acres. He built a log house for the shelter of his family and entered with characteristic zeal upon the development of a farm from the wild prairies, and from time to time increased its acreage till he became the possessor of 2,400 acres of fine farming land at the time of his death, so fortunate was he in his undertakings. He died March 8, 1851. His wife, who died in 1824, was a native of Germany, her maiden name being Elizabeth Snyder, and she came with her parents to this country when she was young. Of her marriage nine children were born: James, Martha and John, the only ones now living. James married Sophia Buckels, of Warren County, Ind., where he is engaged in farming, and they have five children —William, Christina, Indiana, Horace and Fremont; Martha married Richard Lyon, of Warren County, Ind., and they have three children—John, Martha and Thomas.

John Goodwine spent the early years of his life in his native State, gleaning such an education as was afforded by the pioneer schools of those days, and on the home farm a good practical training in the management of a farm. He came to Vermilion County March 15, 1848, and when he began an independent life for himself he had a better start than many farmer's sons, having inherited 300 acres from his father's estate. But notwithstanding such an advantage he worked with persevering energy, and by wise management and a judicious expenditure of money he has become possessed of one of the largest and finest estates within the limits of Vermilion County, owning over 4,000 acres of highly improved land, besides having given his children 2,000. He does an extensive business in general farming, and makes a specialty of raising Short-horns, having a fine herd of highly graded cattle of that breed.

Mr. Goodwine has been twice married. His first wife was Jane Charleton, of Indiana, and to them were born five children—Marion, John, James, Mary J. and Fremont. Marion married Susan Selsor, and lives in Marysville, this county. They have five children, one of whom is dead; the others are Hattie, Fred, Daly E. and Ary; John married Mary Alexander, and they had one child, Annie; his first wife died October, 1872, and about 1874 he was again married to Miss Alice Lane, and they have six children—John, Wilber, Nora, Ulysses, Cora and Villa; James, a farmer in this county, married Minerva King, of New Jersey, and they have three children—Nellie, Roy and Goldie; Mary J. married James M. Tillotson, of Warren County, Ind., now a farmer in Louisiana, and they have three children—Jessie, Estella and Mabel.

The maiden name of the present wife of our subject was Arminda Sperry, and she was born in this county Dec. 24, 1842. Her parents, Erastus and Ruth (Rees) Sperry, were of German antecedents though they were born in this country, the father in Ohio June 3, 1819, and the mother in Indiana Aug. 19, 1819. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwine have four children, namely: Martha, Helen, Dora and Grant W., all of whom are at home with their parents.

Mr. Goodwine possesses in a rare degree far-seeing sagacity and energy, so combined with those useful qualities of prudence and steadfastness of purpose, that he could not fail to increase his wealth

by legitimate means, and accomplish whatever he attempted. His career in life has been an honorable one, and his place is among the most useful and worthy of the citizens of Vermilion County, with whose interests his own have been so intimately connected these many years, and whose material prosperity he has greatly extended. He has served on the juries of the State and county, and as an intelligent, observant man is greatly interested in the political issues of the day, giving his support to the Republican party on all questions of National or local importance.

A fine large double page view of the handsome residence and surroundings on the farm of Mr. Goodwine is among the attractive features of the opening pages of the ALBUM, and is a fitting introduction to those which follow. It shows what can be accomplished by a life of industry and energy, coupled with a good business capacity.

JOHN R. BALDWIN. There are few of the older residents along the western line of this county who are unfamiliar with the name which stands at the head of this biographical sketch. It is that of a man selfmade in the broadest sense of the term—one who in his young manhood resolved to make life a success if it could be accomplished by industry and wise management. Many men who are successful perhaps do not as fully realize the fact as those around them who have been less so, but the present standing of Mr. Baldwin, socially and financially, should give him an extremely comfortable feeling, for his career has been worthy of emulation. It is maintained that every man has his hobby, and Mr. Baldwin, a great lover of the equine race, has for many years given his attention to the breeding of and dealing in horses, and in this branch of business can scarcely be excelled. He is an excellent judge of this noblest of the animal kingdom, and while developing their fine points has made of the industry a profit as well as a pleasure.

The farm property of Mr. Baldwin is pleasantly situated on section 17, Vance Township, and comprises a homestead furnished with all the modern improvements, both for agricultural pursuits and for stock operations. Mr. Baldwin is now past sixty-one years old, having been born March 9, 1828, and is a native of Mason County, Ky. His father, George Baldwin, who was born in Virginia, is still living and in good health, although having arrived at the ripe old age of over eighty-six years. In addition to the possession of a strong constitution he has for the last thirty years especially avoided the use of liquor in any form. His life occupation has been that of a farmer, and he is now living at a comfortable home in Fairmount, where he enjoys the acquaintance of a large circle of friends.

The mother of our subject was, in her girlhood, Miss Rebecca Downing. She was born in Kentucky, and was married in her native State, where the family lived until 1839. Thence they removed to Ohio, and in the fall of 1865 came to this county, and settled three miles south of Fairmount. They became the parents of seven children, four of whom are living, and the mother departed this life in 1884.

The paternal grandfather of our subject emigrated from Prince Edward County, Va., to Mason County, Ky., in 1814, during the period of its earliest settlement. He there spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1843. In the meantime he served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and had a son, Pleasant Baldwin, who carried a musket in the War of 1812. The latter died in 1880.

The early education of John R. Baldwin was obtained partly in Kentucky and partly in Ohio, and he remained a member of the parental household until the time of his marriage. This interesting event was celebrated Feb. 22, 1850, the bride being Miss Catherine J., daughter of Nathan Glaze, of Maryland. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin settled on a rented farm near Ripley, Ohio, where they lived until 1856. They then removed to a farm which Mr. Baldwin had purchased on Straight Creek Ridge, Ohio, and which he partly improved and sold at a good profit two years later. The next two years he operated as a renter, then purchased more land, which he sold at war prices.

At the expiration of this time Mr. Baldwin, determining to see something of the Western country,

came to Illinois, and after viewing the country went back home, published his sale of personal property, established his family in Ripley, and in May, 1865, started out on another tour of investigation. This time he was accompanied by his father, they boarding a boat at Ripley which conveyed them to St. Louis and thence to Rockport Landing, Mo. They were prevented from landing at Lexington on account of the bushwhackers, who were unaware that the war was over. They next pursned their travels by stage and hack to St. Joseph, thence to Quincy and Chicago, Ill., and from there by way of Indianapolis and Cincinnati home.

Having seen so many different places, and all with some advantages, our subject now found himself in a dilemma as to where it was best to settle. He finally concluded to remain in Ohio until he could get all his money together. He rented a farm and commenced dealing extensively in horses and cattle, shipping to Cincinnati and realizing handsome returns. The fall of 1868 again found him Westward bound, and passing through this county. From here he went to Southern Missouri by way of Kansas City, and gravitated back to this county via St. Louis and the Illinois Central Railroad. He found nothing in his opinion superior to this region, and accordingly rented a house in Fairmount, and returning to Ohio had collected, by the 11th of March, 1869, all his money, and returned to this county. He did not then intend to invest his capital here, and in less than two weeks had loaned about $4,000. He finally purchased the land comprising his present homestead, and which was embellished with the best dwelling on the prairie. His stock shipping operations have extended as far East as Boston and Albany, N. Y., and he has probably sold more young horses than any other man in his neighborhood, these being shipped largely to Pennsylvania buyers, who come to him and make their purchases at first hands.

During the last ten years Mr. Baldwin has operated as a breeder, and sold four colts of his own raising to Pennsylvania buyers for $850. He does no more shipping, but since abandoning this, has sold sixteen head of horses for over $3,400, besides three carloads at from $150 to $190 each. One remarkable circumstance in his career is the fact, that in Ohio he never lost but $10 in his horse operations. Since coming to Illinois he has handled large numbers of valuable horses without loss. In one carload he lost $262, but made it all right on the next shipment.

Of the twelve children born to our subject and his estimable wife nine are living: Charles N., the eldest, married Miss Susie Gunder, is the father of three children, and lives two and one-half miles southwest of Danville; Mary J., the wife of Barton Elliott, is the mother of three children, and they live a half mile east of Fairmount; J. Henry married Miss Lizzie Price, is the father of six children, and lives three miles south of Fairmount; Emma Belle, Mrs. William Hill, lives in Oakwood Township, and is the mother of one child; Laura E. married Edwin North, and they live in Sidell, without children; Cora L., Mrs. Lincoln Smith, has no children, and they live three and one-half miles northwest of Fairmount; Lizzie, Oscar G. and Robert L. remain at home with their parents.

Mrs. Baldwin was the fifth child of her parents, and was born Aug. 31, 1829, in Brown County, Ohio. Her father, a prominent man in his neighborhood, came to Illinois in the spring of 1866, and died in Hancock County, in 1883, in the ninetieth year of his age. The mother survived her husband five years, dying in 1888, in Hancock County at the advanced age of ninety-two. Their family consisted of four daughters and six sons. Mrs. Baldwin's people on both sides of the house were largely represented, many of them living to a great age. Her grandfather on her mother's side was the father of nine children, four of whom lived to be from eighty to eighty-eight years old; their united ages being 332. Her father, Nathan Glaze, served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and was a pensioner at the time of his death. Both he and his wife were members of the Christian Church for the long period of sixty years. Mrs. Baldwin has been a member of the Baptist Church.

Conservative in politics, Mr. Baldwin votes the straight Republican ticket, and recalls the fact that the largest and most enthusiastic political meeting which he ever attended, was one held in the interests of William Henry Harrison, in 1840, at Ripley, Brown Co., Ohio, when Mr. Baldwin was a lad of

twelve years. He has mixed very little in public life with the exception of serving as School Director twelve years. His interests have chiefly centered in live stock, and he has been a prominent worker in the County Fair Association. His connection with this in Ohio extended from 1853 to 1867, and in Illinois from 1869 to 1886. He was for four years a member of the Board of Directors of Vermilion County Agricultural and Mechanical Association at Danville, and took an important part in the discussion of the matters pertaining to its best interests. He is a Royal Arch Mason, belonging to Homer Lodge Chapter, and in Fairmount is a member of lodge number 590, in which he has served as Master for two years, having passed all the Chairs. He is a stockholder in the Homer Agricultural Fair Association.

EDMUND P. JONES has a valuable farm in Danville Township, pleasantly located four miles southeast of the city in the center of a rich agricultural region. He is a fine type of the sturdy, intelligent, self-reliant natives of Vermilion County who were born here in the early days of its settlement, reared amid its pioneer scenes, and after attaining a stalwart manhood, took their place among its practical, wide awake citizens and have ever since been active in developing and sustaining its many and varied interests.

The subject of this sketch comes of good pioneer stock, and both his paternal and maternal ancestry were early settlers of Kentucky, and there his father and mother, William and Jane (Martin) Jones were born, the former in Harrison County, Feb. 24, 1796, and the latter April 15, 1795. They were united in marriage Jan. 23, 1816, and continued to reside in their native State till 1828, when with their six children they came to Illinois with a team and cast in their fortunes with the early pioneers of Vermilion County, locating near Danville, in Danville Township. They lived a short time on section 16, and then the father bought a tract of land on section 11. It was heavily timbered, and the family lived in a rail-pen for a time as a temporary shelter, and then Mr. Jones built a log house on the place, and in that humble abode the subject of this sketch was born Jan. 13, 1830. The father improved a part of his land, and a few years later removed to another place, and resided in different parts of the town till his demise, Oct. 30, 1859. A faithful citizen was thus lost to the community, one who had led an honest, sober-minded life, and was deserving of the respect accorded to him. His worthy wife survived him till Sept. 10, 1867, when she too passed away at the home of our subject. The following is recorded of the eight children born to them: John P. is deceased; Elizabeth is the wife of Henry Sallee, of Oakwood Township; Joseph M. is deceased; Sarah A. married Dennis Olehy, and is now deceased; William Perry and Mazy J. are deceased; Edmund P. is the subject of this sketch; Thomas J. lives in Oakwood Township.

The subject of this sketch remembers well the wildness of the country around about as it first appeared to him when he became old enough to observe his surroundings, and the beautiful scene presented by the virgin prairie and primeval forest before civilization had wrought its marvelous changes, is indellibly impressed on his mind. Deer, wild turkeys and other game were plentiful and roamed at will, unless brought down by the unerring aim of the hunter anxious to replenish the scant larder in his humble pioneer home. There were no railways for many years after our subject's first recollection, and the nearest market was at Chicago, 125 miles distant, till after the canal was finished, and then produce was taken to Perrysville, Ind. The farmers of those days had to conduct their agricultural operations in the most primitive manner, and Mr. Jones says that when he was young grain was cut with a sickle, and when the cradle came into use that was considered a great improvement, and the present harvesting machine was undreamed of. Threshing machines were then unknown, and the grain was either trampled out by horses or else whipped out by flails. The plows in use had wooden mold-boards, and all corn was dropped by hand and covered with a hoe, while grass was cut with a scythe and hay was pitched with a wooden fork. Nor was the work of the busy housewife lightened by modern improve-

ments. The good mother cooked the food before the fire in the old-fashioned fireplace, and used to spin, weave and make all the cloth for the family. The intelligent pioneers early sought to give their children educational advantages, and the first schools were conducted in rude log school-houses provided with seats made of puncheon with wooden pins for legs, and the window comprising an opening from which a log had been removed and greased paper inserted through which the light had to penetrate, and a large fireplace, the chimney of stick and clay, for heating purposes. In such a structure our subject gleaned his education. He commenced in his boyhood to assist his father on the farm, and gained from him a thorough practical knowledge of farming in all its branches. He remained an inmate of the parental household till he attained man's estate and then started out in life for himself by renting land and carried on agriculture thereon for a while. At the time of his marriage he went to Iroquois County and settled on a tract of wild land there, remaining till 1859, when he returned to Vermilion County, and in 1861 he bought forty acres of land on section 13 of Danville Township. It was partly fenced and a few acres had been broken, but aside from that no improvements had been made, not even any buildings had been erected. He built a frame house on forty acres adjoining his original purchase, and has since bought other land, till he now has 220 acres, under excellent cultivation and capable of producing large crops. His residence, a well built house, is located on section 12, and he has other substantial buildings, and everything about the place is conveniently arranged and well ordered.

Mr. Jones has been twice married. He was first wedded Oct. 19, 1851, to Sarah A. Cox, who was, like himself, a native of Danville Township, born May 5, 1831. She closed her eyes to the scenes of earth after a brief and happy married life, dying in Iroquois County, Nov. 11, 1858. Mr. Jones was married to his present wife, formerly Mary E. Villars, Feb. 21, 1861. Mrs. Jones is a native of Clinton County, Ohio, born Dec. 11, 1840, to William and Ruth (Whitaker) Villars (see sketch of William Villars for parental history). Mr. and Mrs. Jones have had six children, four of whom are living, as follows: Rosa Belle married Joshua Olehy of Danville Township; John W. married Mary J. Rouse, and they live in Danville Township; Lillie A. married Albert E. Villars of Newell Township; Clark S. is at home with his parents.

Mr. Jones is a man of self-respecting, energetic character, well dowered with firmness and decision, and his conduct in all the various relations of life is such as to inspire the trust and esteem of all with whom he comes in contact either in a business or in a social way. He and his wife belong to the Pleasant Grove United Brethren Church, and are active in aiding their pastor and fellow-members in any good work, and they are always to be found on the side of the right. In him the Democratic party in this section of the country find a stanch ally.

THOMAS LEE. Among others who came to Central Illinois during the period of its pioneership was the sturdy English-born citizen with the substantial traits of character handed down to him by his ancestors, the qualities of industry and perseverance, which were bound to win. He assisted in the development of the soil, in the building up of communities, and almost without an exception acquired a competence. Mr. Lee is one of the representative men of his nationality and an early settler. He came to Illinois in 1856 and took up his residence in Vermilion County in 1874 on section 32, township 23, range 12. During the period of his fifteen years' residence here he has opened up a good farm of 120 acres and secured himself against want in his old age.

Our subject was born in Devonshire, England, Sept. 17, 1838, and lived there until approaching the eighteenth year of his age. He was the first child of the family to leave home, and the occasion was one naturally mixed with regret and some apprehensions. Embarking at Liverpool, he made the long voyage across the Atlantic in safety, landing in New York, and proceeded directly to Illinois, locating first in Peoria County. He worked on a farm there several years, and about 1860 changed

his residence to Woodford County. In that county he purchased wild land, where he opened up a good farm and lived about twelve years. During this time he put up good buildings, planted an orchard, fenced his land, and, in fact, effected the improvements naturally suggested to the progressive agriculturist.

In Woodford County, Ill., our subject was married, March 8, 1862, to Miss Grace Huxtable. The young people began life together on the new farm, and after selling out, Mr. Lee traveled all over the West and the Pacific Slope, but came back to Illinois, not being able to find any section of country which suited him better. He then came to this county and purchased the farm where he now lives. There were no buildings upon it to speak of, but he soon provided a shelter for his family, and here he has since remained, carrying on general farming and stock-raising successfully. He cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and has since been a stanch supporter of the Republican party. He believes in the doctrines of the Baptist Church, of which he is a member, attending services at Hoopeston.

Seven of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lee are still living—Herschel J., Lizzie, Clarence, Delmer, Newton, Jennie and Morris. The eldest son has been in the farther West for the past four years. Lizzie became the wife of Loren Briggs, and they live on a farm west of the Lee homestead; they have two children. Clarence married Miss Ada Redden and lives in Butler Township. The other children are at home with their parents. Mrs. Lee was likewise born in Devonshire in 1843, and came to America with her father when a child of nine years, the family settling on Kickapoo Prairie. The father farmed there for a time and then removed with his family to Woodford County, where Mr. Lee made the acquaintance of his future wife. Mr. Huxtable, also a native of Devonshire, came to America in 1852, and carried on farming in Woodford County until 1887. Then, retiring from active labor, he took up his residence in Benson, Woodford County, where he now lives and is married to his second wife. His first wife died in England.

William Lee, the father of our subject, also a native of Devonshire, England, spent his entire life there. He married Miss Susanna Davey, and they became the parents of five sons and three daughters, all of whom, with the exception of two daughters, came to America, together with the mother, who died in Benson in January, 1888.

WILLIAM DICKINSON, an honored resident and well-to-do farmer of Catlin Township, is numbered among the far-sighted men of practical ability and cool judgment, who have been instrumental in promoting its growth, and making it a rich agricultural centre. He owns a well-ordered farm on section 26, every acre of which is highly cultivated, and, with its neat buildings and other appointments, it does not compare unfavorably with the many other fine farms of which Vermilion County can boast. Here Mr. Dickinson has passed thirty-six of the best years of his life, coming here while yet in the prime of a stalwart manhood, and that these years have been well spent in diligent and cheerful labor, is shown by the substantial home that he has built up, in which, now that the infirmities of age are upon him, he can rest from his toils, and enjoy its comforts without the necessity of labor and drudgery.

Our subject is of English antecedents and birth. His parents, John and Hannah Dickinson, were both natives of England, and they died in Lincolnshire. Their son, William Dickinson, of whom this sketch is written, was born in the old home in Lincolnshire, April 27, 1819, and amid its pleasant surroundings, he grew to man's estate. He early engaged in farming, and became quite a farmer before he left the old country to try life in the new world, coming here in 1853, landing in New York city the first day of May. He came directly to Vermilion County in this State, having previously heard of its wonderful agricultural resources, and has been engaged in tilling the land in Catlin Township ever since, though on account of his advanced age he has retired somewhat from the active duties of the management of his estate. His farm comprises 197 acres of choice land, well cultivated and supplied with all the necessary buildings and ma-

chinery, and is indeed one of the most desirable places in the vicinity.

Mr. Dickinson was a married man when he emigrated to this country, he having been previously wedded in the historical old town of Boston, in Lincolnshire, to Miss Emma Barker, a native of that shire. Ten children were born of their union, as follows: Harriet A., wife of Frederic Jones, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume; Elizabeth M., wife of George Stonebraker; William, who married Callie Laflen; Emma, the wife of Arthur Jones, whose sketch appears on another page of this work; James; Matilda, the wife of James Bentley: Henry, Hannah B., John and Joseph.

Aug. 14, 1888, she who had walked by the side of our subject many a year, leaving, for his sake, home and friends in the dear old England, and for many a year cheering and strengthening him in his work, passed out of his life, and entered into the rest that passeth understanding.

"Her work is compassed and done;
All things are seemly and ready
And her summer is just begun."

MRS DICKINSON—OBITUARY.

Mrs. Emma Dickinson, to whose memory this notice is inscribed, was born in Boston, Lincolnshire, England, Sept. 22, 1823, making her age at time of death, sixty-four years, ten months and twenty-two days. Her maiden name was Emma Barker. She was married to William Dickenson, March 2, 1847. They emigrated to this country May 14th, 1853, and located within three miles of where the family now reside. Her sister, Mrs. Matilda Clipson came over at the same time. She was the mother of ten children, five girls and five boys, of whom the following were born in England: Harriet A., wife of Frederic Jones; Mary E., wife of George Stonebraker; Emma, wife of A. Jones, and William, the eldest son. The following were born in America: James, Henry, John, Joseph and Matilda, wife of James Bentley, and Hannah R. the youngest daughter. The children are all of mature age, and the family have never before been bereaved by death. The deceased was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in England, and although she did not identify herself as a member here, she was an attendant on divine services, and lived an exemplary and Christian life. Her illness dates back several years, however, she was not confined to her bed until about the beginning of September, since which time she was unable to help herself. Her sufferings were very great, but were borne with a resignation which none but a Christian woman could possess. She was a devoted wife, a faithful mother, the light of the home and the pride of the family. While we must bid her a fond farewell, her virtues will not be forgotten.

A short funeral service was held at the home by Rev. A. C. Cummings. The music was under the direction of Mrs. Elsie McGreggor, and the following persons were chosen as pall bearers: A. G. Olmstead, G. W. L. Church, Jno. Parker, jr., T. Brady, J. M. Douglass and G. W. Tilton.

By request of the deceased, a sacred song was sung during the services by little Benny Louis, accompanied by his sister. A large procession of friends accompanied the family to the Jones cemetery, where the body now reposes.

Mr. Dickinson is justly regarded as one of the solid, reliable citizens of this township, as during the many years that he has resided here, he has ever shown himself to be faithful to his duties and responsibilities in every department of life in which he has acted, as a husband, father, neighbor and citizen, and it may truly be said that his character is such as to inspire respect and esteem.

JAMES M. GEDDES, an Illinois pioneer of '56, and a man who has been the architect of his own fortune, is now the owner of a fine property, comprising a well-appointed farm located on section 7, in Ross Township. He is a scion of an excellent old family of Scotch ancestry, and the son of Joseph Geddes, whose father, George Geddes, emigrated from the Land of the Thistle to America about 1788. Making his way to the Territory of Ohio, he located on a tract of land in the wilderness, near where the town of East Liverpool now stands, but which then for miles around was destitute of any signs of civilization. He

had been married in Boston, Mass., to a lady who was descended from old Plymouth stock—people who came over in the Mayflower—and who was reared in the strict doctrines of the old Presbyterian faith. They began their wedded life together in the wilds of Ohio, where they reared their family, and spent the remainder of their days, each attaining to a ripe old age. Of their children, seven in number, Joseph, the father of our subject, was the youngest, and was born in 1805. He was reared at that home in the wilderness. The country was gradually settled up, and among the other adventurous pioneers who followed in the wake of the Geddes family were William Moore, whose daughter, Catherine, became the wife of Joseph Geddes, and the mother of our subject. The mother's parents lived just across the Ohio River in Brook County, Va., until their deaths occurred.

Joseph Geddes and his young wife continued to reside near the old folk in East Liverpool about six years, and in the meantime their son, James M., the subject of this sketch, was born April 21, 1837. About 1839 they removed to Tuscarawas County, and later to the northeastern part of Indiana, where Joseph Geddes departed this life at the age of sixty-five years, and the mother at the age of seventy-six. They became the parents of twelve children, all of whom, with one exception, are living. The second child, Elizabeth, died when about seven years old. Those besides our subject, are named respectively, John, William, Mary A., Wilson, Richard, Robert, Nancy J., Lucinda, Joseph, and Minerva. The latter, the youngest of the family, is thirty-six years old. The household circle remained undivided by death for more than fifty years—a circumstance scarcely equalled in the history of any other family in this region.

The parents of our subject, during their younger years, were identified with the Presbyterian Church, but later became connected with the United Brethren, in the faith of which they died. James M., upon coming to Illinois in 1856, located first at Momence, but later removed to Iroquois County. There he was married, in 1862, to Miss Emma, daughter of Thomas and Anna (Barkley) Young. They lived there until the spring of 1883, engaged in farming pursuits; then our subject disposed of his interests in that section and purchased his present fine farm of 160 acres, which he proposes to make his permanent home. Upon coming to this State he was without other resources than his good health and strong hands, and like the wise man of Scripture, he has increased his talent ten fold. During his younger years he experienced all the hardships and difficulties of life in a new country, and improved his first farm from the raw prairie. He cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln, and has been a steadfast supporter of Republican principles, especially since the outbreak of the war, and has ever maintained an ardent admiration for the martyred President, Lincoln. Both he and his wife belong to the Christian Church at Prairie Chapel. Their seven children, who are all living, were named respectively: Elmer L., Joseph F., Maude, Ruby, Nellie, Grace and Nora. They form a bright and interesting group, and are being given the educational advantages which will fit them for intelligent and worthy members of society.

FRANKLIN BALDWIN. It must be admitted that although no man attains to success without encountering difficulties and drawbacks, life still has its compensations, especially when the individual has chosen that wise path of rectitude and honor which has led him to a position where he is looked upon by his fellow men with confidence and esteem. The career of Mr. Baldwin has been pregnant with interesting events and experiences, some of them dark and trying and some of them filled in with a large measure of satisfaction. The former served to develop the naturally strong points of a substantial character while the latter have shown like the sun upon a rugged mountain side, rounding up the whole to a complete end.

The native place of our subject was in the vicinity of Decatur, Ohio, and the date of his birth, April 26, 1832. When he was a mere child his parents set out for the West and after landing in Grant County, Ind., stopped there and raised one crop. In the spring of 1838 they folded their tents for a further journey Westward, starting out

with a four-horse team and taking with them their household goods and a quantity of provisions. Arriving at the Wabash River at Covington, they then loaded their belongings on to a ferry boat. The wind being strong and the river high, they came very near being capsized and drowned and received such a fright that our subject distinctly remembers the event to this day. They succeeded however, in making the crossing in safety and arrived in this county on the 30th day of March, stopping at Danville, that place then being a very small town. The country around was comparatively unsettled, the cabins of the pioneers being few and far between. There was only one or two wagon roads and wild animals were plentiful. The fellow feeling which makes all man kin prevailed, and each new comer was greeted with a heartiness which made him feel welcome. The father of our subject died the succeeding fall and the family were left to struggle along as best as they could under the stress of limited means, and the hardships and difficulties of life on the frontier. The mother was a lady of more than ordinary capacity and by careful management kept her family together until they were old enough to take care of themselves. Finally, laying aside the cares and labors of life she removed to the home of her daughter in Dallas County, Iowa, where her death took place at the age of seventy-six years.

The subject of this sketch acquired his education mostly in the subscription schools. When fifteen years old the mother broke up housekeeping and Franklin began working out by the day, month and job, and managed to maintain himself very comfortably, splitting wood by the cord, plowing, sowing and gathering in the harvest. In the fall of 1856, he took an important step toward establishing a home of his own, being married to Miss Editha Jane, daughter of John and Polly (Stewart) Naylor. The newly wedded pair took up their residence near Yankee Point and Mr. Baldwin occupied himself as before, until 1864, when he purchased a tract of land from which he built up a good farm and which he occupied for a period of twenty-one years. In January, 1886, he and his estimable wife decided, and wisely, they would retire from active labor, and accordingly leaving the farm removed to the new village of Sidell, of which they have since been residents.

Mr. Baldwin in the fall of 1885, purchased from Sanson Rawlings a stock of hardware and has since been engaged in trade, building up a good patronage. In the year 1887, he completed a neat residence on East Market street and with ample means and all the comforts of life, is enabled to live easily and enjoy the fruits of his early industry.

Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin became the parents of nine children, the eldest of whom, John M., married Miss Lucy Thornton and is farming in Carroll Township, they have three children; Perry A., married Miss Sarah E. Lawrence and occupies the homestead; they have four children—Maude, Ellen Lester, and Rosa; Charles M., married Miss Emily Crices, and they are the parents of one child; he conducts a grocery store in Sidell; William A. and Wilbur A. were twins, the former is farming in Sidell Township, and Wilbur is with his brother Charles in the grocery; Benjamin lives at the homestead; Norah E., died at the age of eighteen months; Robert W., is in Carroll Township with his brother John.

The father of our subject was in his early manhood an old line Whig, and Franklin remembers the election of 1840, when the grandfather of President Harrison was elevated to the first position in the land. He cast his first Presidential vote for J. C. Fremont, and was a staunch supporter of Republican principles.

James Baldwin, the father of our subject, married Miss Rachel Parry and both were natives of Brown County, Ohio. The paternal grandfather, John Baldwin, came from England prior to the War of 1812, and settled near Ripley in Brown County, Ohio. The grandfather of our subject participated in the above war, enlisting at the age of twenty-one years, after Hull's surrender. The father of our subject came to this county in the spring of 1838, and rented a part of the Draper farm, but died the ensuing fall when Franklin was a lad of six years. There were eleven other children, one of whom, the youngest born, William, died at the age of three years.

The remaining children of the parental family of our subject are recorded as follows: Caroline, the

eldest, is a resident of Madison County, Iowa, and is seventy-four years old; Amanda lives in Marysville, this State, and is aged seventy-two; Polly, sixty five years of age, is a resident of Georgetown, Ill.; Jane, aged fifty-five is a resident of Dallas County, Iowa; Thomas lives at Yankee Point, this county, and is fifty-nine years old. He and our subject are the only two sons living. The other children were named respectively, Elizabeth, Darius, John N., James and Elijah.

Mrs. Baldwin's father was born in Ohio, and her mother in Ireland. Mrs. Baldwin was born in Vermillion County, Ind., June 11, 1840, and there spent her childhood and youth, attending the common school and being trained by an excellent mother to those housewifely duties, a knowledge of which is essential in a well-ordered household. She has stood bravely by her husband in his toils and struggles and he avers that it is owing largely to her good sense and wise counsels that he has been enabled to attain to his present position, socially and financially. They take a natural and pardonable pride in their fine family of children to whom they have given all the advantages in their power. Mr. Baldwin believes in education and has carried out his sentiments in this respect in providing his children with good schooling. The family is widely and favorably known throughout Sidell Township and vicinity where they count their friends by the score.

WILLIAM McBROOM occupies a high place among the venerable and honored citizens of Catlin Township, and though not among the earliest settlers of this part of Vermilion County, he may be denominated one of its pioneers. He is still living on the pleasant tract of land on section 35, that at the time of his purchase formed a part of the wild prairie, and which he has since improved into a fine farm. He and his wife are serenely passing their declining years in one of the cosiest and neatest homes in this community, where they are held in respect and affection by the many who know them.

Mr. McBroom is a Kentuckian by birth, born in Preston County April 28, 1815, the eldest of the five children of Joseph and Phebe (Young) McBroom, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Chilicothe, Ohio. After their marriage they had settled in Preston County, Ky., and thence they removed to Crawfordsville, Ind., in 1827, becoming early settlers of that place. Mr. McBroom bought a tract of land, and cleared forty acres of it where the city now stands. He was a man of considerable enterprise, and besides engaging in agriculture, he made brick in that locality for four years, operating two brickyards at a time, and making the first brick that was ever made in that county. His useful career was closed in 1841, in the home that he built up there in Montgomery County, and a valued citizen was then lost to the community. His wife survived him several years, but for fourteen years previous to her death, which occurred in Cass County, Neb., at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Sarah Young, she was an invalid.

Our subject was still in his boyhood when his parents took him to Crawfordsville, Ind., and there he grew to maturity, developing into a strong, shrewd, capable man. He learned the trade of wagon-making in that county, and followed it exclusively for a long term of years, finding it quite profitable. He removed to Tippecanoe County, and was engaged in his trade there, manufacturing wagons for some ten years. He then returned to Montgomery County, where he resided until the month of October, 1854, when he came to Vermilion County, and settled in Catlin Township, purposing to give his attention to agriculture on this rich, alluvial soil, and he has ever since made his home here. He owns 120 acres of land that is very fertile and productive, and is supplied with a good set of buildings; everything about the place is orderly, and the farm is under good management.

Mr. McBroom has been three times married. The maiden name of the wife of his early manhood was Rhoda Ann Stover, and she was, like himself, a native of Kentucky. She bore him one child, which died in infancy, and, the mother dying also, both were buried in the same grave. Mr. McBroom was married a second time in Montgomery County. Mrs. Elizabeth Boyd becoming his wife; she was a

daughter of Joseph Hanks. To them three children were born—Joseph, John and Thomas, the latter dying when about a year old. Mrs. McBroom departed this life in Tippecanoe County, Ind., in 1848. Our subject was married to his present wife in that county March 13, 1851. Her maiden name was Emily Allen. She was the daughter of the late Judge William and Susan (Spurgeon) Allen, and widow of Jacob Snyder. He died in Montgomery County Nov. 17, 1846. She had by her first marriage four children—Sarah, Susan, Ivea Ann, Amanda M. Sarah was the wife of Arthur C. Schocky, and she died in Kansas. Mrs. McBroom's parents were natives of Kentucky, and she was the sixth of their ten children. She was born in Bourbon County, Ky., May 20, 1818. By her marriage with our subject she has had six children, as follows: Phœbe E., Alfred, Franklin, Josephine, William and Eddie J. Phœbe and Franklin are deceased.

Although Mr. and Mrs. McBroom are well advanced in years, the snows of age have not yet chilled their hearts or deadened their sympathies towards the needy and suffering. They still take an active interest in the affairs of the day, and keep well posted on topics of general interest. Mr. McBroom's career in life has been a useful one to himself and to the community at large, as he has contributed his quota towards its upbuilding, and has always acted the part of a good citizen. He is decided in his political views, and is a faithful adherent of the Democratic party.

VINSON R. BOARDMAN. Occasionally we find a man who has had the enterprise to see something of the world before settling down to the sterner duties of life, as in the case of the subject of this notice. He has been quite a traveler throughout the Western country, and spent a number of years on the Pacific Slope. He came to this county in the fall of 1840, and settled on this farm in 1859, where he has 265 acres of choice land on section 26, township 23, range 12. This has been his home for the long period of thirty-five years, and he is still on the sunny side of seventy, surrounded by all the comforts of life, and blest with the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Boardman was born in Ontario County, N. Y., May 3, 1822, and there spent his youthful days, acquiring a practical education in the common school. He was bred to farming pursuits. In the spring of 1849, young Boardman decided to visit California, and, purchasing an ox team at Independence, Mo., started across the plains with a company of 125 men. They crossed the Missouri River at St. Joseph, and followed the usual trail taken by emigrants. They were five months on the road, but at the end of that time 123 of the men were scattered to different places, only our subject and one man reaching their destination in company. The others finally drifted to the same place after having wandered around north of the Sacramento River.

Upon his arrival in California, our subject engaged in mining from early in the fall until late in the winter, then went down to Nappa, when there was only one building in Sacramento but acres of tents. He staid there with an attack of fever, which lasted about four weeks, and then entered the employ of the proprietor of the city, with whom he remained, hauling lumber at $150 per month until fall, when he made his way to Oregon, where he spent the winter. In the spring he entered the mines of Northern California, but with rather poor success, then returned to Oregon, but finally went back to California and rented land, where he carried on agriculture until returning home.

This return journey was made by our subject via the water route, across the isthmus to New Orleans, and up the Mississippi, Mr. Boardman arriving in this county again in the spring of 1853. That year he visited New York State. Subsequently Mr. Boardman employed himself at farming, having in view the establishment of a home of his own, and on the 16th of November, 1854, was united in marriage with Mrs. Susan Carter. Soon afterward he settled on his present farm, where he has since made his home, although the farm did not equal its present dimensions, having been added to both by himself and his sons.

To Mr. and Mrs. Boardman there were born four

children, all of whom are living. Inez is the wife of Thomas Evans, and they are residing in Grant Township; Herbert V. and Ernest C. are at home with their father; Marcus A. is traveling Auditor for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company. Mr. Boardman has been for a number of years a member of the Presbyterian Church at Rossville, and politically gives his support to the Republican party. He is a man quiet and unostentatious in his manner of living, and has been content to pursue the even tenor of his way, making very little stir in the world, and never seeking political preferment.

The parents of our subject were Jesse C. and Mary (Runyon) Boardman, the former a native of Connecticut. When about eight or nine years old he removed with his parents to New York State, where he was married and settled on a farm in Ontario County. His wife, the mother of our subject, died there when the latter was four years old. Jesse Boardman spent his last days near Rushville, Ontario County, and departed this life when about sixty-seven years old..

JOHN E. SMITH is classed among the able and highly intelligent young farmers of Vermilion County, who are active in sustaining and extending its great agricultural interests. His well appointed farm on section 26, Pilot Township, is in all respects finely improved, and compares well with other estates in the vicinity. He has stocked it with cattle, horses and hogs of fine grades, and he is cultivating it with good results so as to make money. He is a native born citizen of this county, Dec. 3, 1854, being the date of his birth. His father, George G. Smith, was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, Aug. 31, 1828, and he came to this county in company with his parents, who were of German antecedents and birth, in 1836. They thus became the pioneers of Vermilion County, and were respected residents here till death closed their earthly career, the grandfather of our subject dying in 1864, and the grandmother in 1842. The following is recorded of the nine children born to the parents of our subject: Elizabeth married George Wilson, of Ohio, now a farmer of Blount Township, and they have two children; Elias D., a farmer of Blount Township, married Clara Smith and they have three children; Sarah lives with her parents; Eva married Andrew Lanham, of Blount Township, now of Ross Township, and they have one child; Wesley, a farmer, married Emma Sperry, of Blount Township, and they have one child; Marshall, Woodard and Josephine are the others.

John Smith received the preliminaries of a sound education in the public schools, which he attended till he was twenty-one years old, and then being ambitious to advance still farther in his studies, he attended the State Normal School, where he pursued an excellent literary course that thoroughly fitted him for the profession of teaching that he afterward adopted. He was successfully engaged at that vocation eight years, but after marriage he abandoned it to give his attention to agriculture, and bought eighty acres of finely improved farming land. He subsequently sold that and purchased his present farm of 160 acres of land equally good, and well adapted to general farming. It is under high cultivation, and is provided with a comfortable, conveniently arranged set of farm buildings.

Mr. Smith has much financial capacity, is endowed with good mental qualities that have been stimulated by a liberal education, and he carries on his farming operations with intelligent skill that will one day place him among the wealthy and substantial citizens of this township, if he prospers as he has heretofore done. In his politics he is an ardent champion of the Democratic party, and has been since the days when he cast his first vote for Samuel J. Tilden, the great New York statesman, his last vote for president being in favor of Grover Cleveland.

The marriage of Mr. Smith with Miss Mary E. Firebaugh, of Blount Township, occurred March 25, 1876. She was born Dec. 11, 1853, in the aforementioned township, her parents being William R. and Melvia (Flora) Firebaugh, the father being of German descent. They emigrated from Ohio to Indiana, and thence to Illinois. The mother departed this life in 1872. The father still

resides in this county. They were the parents of five children: Curtis married Christina Porter, of this county, and they have two children; Elizabeth married George Snyder, of this county, now living in Oakwood Township, and they have two children; Robert, a farmer, married Leo Fairchilds, of Blount Township, and they have two children. Emma married Milton Fairchilds, of Blount Township. The following is the record of the five children born of the pleasant wedded life of Mr. and Mrs Smith: Irvin W., was born June 3, 1877: Edwin R., Jan. 23, 1879; Alfred G., Jan 9, 1881; Everett J., Sept. 5, 1884; Alga, Nov. 6, 1886.

ALLEN T. CATHERWOOD is one of the most prominent and busy men of Hoopeston, having large interests in various branches of industry in the town. He is one of the originators and present owner of the Hoopeston Canning Factory, and is also its General Manager. This enterprise was inaugurated in 1882, and at first was operated on a small scale, but has gradually increased until it has become a very important factor in the business interests of Hoopeston. Last year the establishment used about 2,000 acres of corn and peas, being all raised by the company, which is composed of Mr. Catherwood, J. S. McFerren and A. H. Trego. The concern furnishes employment to 300 people and fifty teams, and the output of corn alone last year amounted to 2,500,000 cans. The value of the plant and stock is given at $150,000.

Mr. Catherwood is also engaged in the grain business on the line of the Lake Erie and Western Railroad, on which road he owns large elevators at different points, having associated with him partners at each place. He also owns a large grain farm of 1,520 acres in the State of Indiana in company with Mr. Williams. It will be seen that Mr. Catherwood has a large business, which is composed of grain handling, farming and manufacturing, and, it is safe to say, that there is no man in this part of the country better able to handle these immense interests. He has held different public offices, and here shows his capacity for doing business for others as well as for himself. He was made Chairman to investigate the different plans of waterworks, with a view to the selection of the best for Hoopeston. He visited different places in the country, and after a decision was finally reached, which practically embodied his recommendations, he was given the general supervision of the erection of the waterworks. With his partner, Mr. Trego, this important improvement reached a successful completion.

Mr. Catherwood was born in Belmont County, Ohio, Dec. 15, 1842, and when fifteen years of age, and two years after the death of his father, he, with his mother and family, removed to Christian County, Ill., where he remained with his mother on their farm until his marriage, which occurred in October, 1874. In 1876 he removed to Vermilion County, settling on a farm near Hoopeston. He engaged in this business for awhile, when he purchased a grocery store. While he had no previous experience in the mercantile business, his solid common sense guided him on to prosperity in his newly-chosen vocation. He continued in this trade, and also engaged extensively in stock-raising (which he still follows) until he launched into the grain business, as has been before stated.

Mr. Catherwood's wife's maiden name was Miss Cornelia Hartwell, and they are the parents of three children living—Robert, Maud and Naomi, and three who died while young. Mr. Catherwood is a member of the Masonic fraternity, being a Knight Templar. He is ever willing and ready to aid anyone who is deserving, and, as a leading man of Hoopeston, has an enviable record. It is safe to assume that there are few better men in this portion of the State of Illinois.

James Catherwood, father of Allen T., was born in Ireland, and when twenty years of age came to this country and settled in Delaware, where he married Miss Lydia Tussic. Soon after his marriage he removed to Ohio, where all his children were born, Allen being the youngest of ten. He was a general farmer, and was considered a successful man in his calling. When his death occurred, in 1855, his wife and her family removed to Christian County, as before stated, where she

purchased a farm, which she operated until the marriage of Allen, when he, with the other children, bought her a nice property in Taylorville, where she now resides with a single daughter.

JOHN McVEY, general merchant, of Tilton, and Postmaster of Vandercook Post-office, Vermilion Co., is one of the most prominent business men in this locality, and is one of the leading civic officials. He is of Celtic ancestry and was born in County Longford, Ireland, in June, 1837. His father, John McVey, was a native of the same county, and was there reared and married, continuing his residence in the home of his nativity till 1837. In that year he came to the United States, seeking to better his fortune, leaving his family behind, intending to send for them at a later date after he became permanently established. He located in Schuylkill County, Pa., where he engaged in mining for several years, till an accident in the mines caused his death in 1852, while yet scarce past life's prime.

His son John, of whom we write, was but an infant when he had the misfortune to lose the loving care of a good mother, and his father being in this country, he was taken to the home of his grandparents, and was reared by them till 1851. In that year he followed his father to America, setting sail from Liverpool and landing in New York after a voyage of seven weeks, a poor boy in a strange land. He hastened to join his father whom he had scarce seen, he having been an infant when he had left home, and they were reunited in Pennsylvania. Our subject soon commenced life for himself as a mule driver in a coal mine. In 1857 he decided that he would like to try life in the great West, and making his way to this State he tried to obtain work in a coal mine at Danville. Not succeeding in that attempt he got employment on a railway for a few months, and then engaged in mining. In May of that year he answered Lincoln's call for 90-day men, and enlisting in Company C, 12th Illinois Infantry, served with his regiment till the expiration of his term of enlistment, when he was honorably discharged and returned to Danville. In August, 1862, he again went forth to aid his adopted country, and enrolling his name with the members of Company C, 125th Illinois Infantry, he went to the front with his regiment, and bravely faced the foe on many a hotly contested battlefield. The most important battles in which he took part were those of Perryville, Ky., and Chicamauga. On the way from Chattanooga to Atlanta with General Sherman, he fought in the various engagements with the rebels that they encountered and in the siege and capture of the latter city. He was also present at the battle of Jonesboro, where he was severely wounded, and was obliged to go to the hospital for treatment. He rejoined his regiment that winter at Savannah. After that he was unable to carry a musket, so did not march with his comrades, but went by boat to Washington, where he was honorably discharged in May, 1865.

After his experience of military life, Mr. McVey returned to Danville and resumed mining, which occupation he continued till 1873. He then rented land and engaged in farming the ensuing five years. During that time he established himself in the mercantile business at Tilton, his wife, a woman of more than ordinary ability, acting as manager. She proved so successful that Mr. McVey finally determined to enlarge the business and devote his time to it, and from that small beginning has grown his present prosperous business. He is the only merchant in Tilton, and carries a large stock of general merchandise, groceries, etc., and has a neat, well appointed store.

July 2, 1869, Mr. McVey took a step that has had an important bearing on his after life whereby he secured a wife in the person of Mrs. Julia (McHeney) Mulhatton, who has been an important factor in his prosperity. She is, like himself, a native of Ireland, born in County Monaghan, and is the daughter of Patrick and Ann (Mulhollan) McHeney, and the widow of James Mulhatton. Her parents were both natives of Ireland, and her father dying when she was very young, her mother soon after took her children to England, and later came to America, five of her children coming at different times. Mrs. McVey was first married in County Durham, England, when but a girl in her teens, to James Mulhatton. When she was nineteen

years of age she accompanied her husband to the United States, and they lived one year in Pennsylvania. They subsequently came to Vermilion County, and here Mr. Mulhatton died while in the prime of life.

Our subject is a fine specimen of the genus homo denominated the self-made man, as all that he has and all that he is he owes to his own exertions. He is a man of honor, whose character is unblemished, and his standing in business and social circles is of the highest. His frank, genial, and pleasant manner has given him a warm place in the hearts of his many associates and he is popular with all classes. In politics he affiliates with the Democrats, but is friendly with all parties. He has represented Danville Township as Assistant Supervisor of the County Board four years; has served several terms as a member of the Tilton Town Council, and is at present President of that honorable body of men. He and his wife are members of the St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church, contribute liberally to its support, and are active in its every good work.

JOHN W. BOGGESS, M. D., stands high in the medical profession as represented in Vermilion County, and he has also acquired a fair reputation as an intelligent, enterprising agriculturalist, owning and managing the farm on which he makes his home, pleasantly located on section 29, Catlin Township, he having retired to this place a few years ago on account of failing health. This, his native township, has good reason to be proud of her son, and he has always exerted his influence to elevate her citizenship.

The father of this subject, likewise named John, was a Virginian by birth, Monroe County being his native place. His mother, Jane G. (McCorkle) Boggess, was born in Green Briar County, W. Va. After marriage his parents settled either in Green Briar County, or in Monroe County, W. Va., where the father was engaged as a farmer and stock raiser. In 1830 he settled up his affairs in that section of the country, and with his family emigrated to the wilds of Vermilion County, and became an early pioneer of Catlin Township, settling in what is known as Butler's Point. About 1846 he removed with his wife and children to Wisconsin, considering this locality, with the newly broken prairie sod and other miasmatic influences, quite unhealthful then. He did not, however, sell his real estate in this township, and after an absence of three years, he returned to this locality with his family, and settled on the old Elliott place, just west of Catlin, living there for convenience a short time, and then went back on to his farm. In 1856 they went to Danville to reside, and dwelt there four years for the purpose of educating their children. Mr. Boggess then returned again to his farm in this township, and continued to live here till his death, which occurred in February, 1874. His wife had preceded him to the grave, dying in May, 1868. They had eleven children; William, who died in Catlin Township, when about twenty-two years old; Diana M., the wife of Joseph Griffith, died when she was thirty-seven years old; Rebecca M. is the wife of William M. Ray; Elizabeth died when about seventeen years old; Harvey H. died at the age of thirty-eight years; Charles T. is a farmer in Vermilion County; America J. is the wife of James Davis; Enoch P. is a farmer in Vermilion County; Julia died when she was six years old; Melissa died in infancy; John W.

The latter, of whom we write, was born in Catlin Township, Feb. 27, 1843, and with the exception of three years spent in Wisconsin, when he was but an infant, and the four years in Danville when he was attending school, he was reared to man's estate in the township of his birth. He was educated partly in the public schools, and in the seminary at Danville, which he attended till he was sixteen years old. After that he became a teacher, and was engaged in that vocation in the winter of 1860 and in the summer of 1861. In 1862, ambitious to extend his education, he entered the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, and was graduated from that institution in 1866, having attained high rank for excellent scholarship. He then took up the study of medicine, and while pursuing his course he taught school to pay his expenses. He was under the tutorship of Dr. A. H. Luce, a well-known physician of Bloomington,

and remained with him till the fall of 1867. In the winter of that year, he entered the Chicago Medical College, the medical department of the Northwestern University, and pursued his studies with characteristic vigor. In the spring of 1868, he resumed teaching in Catlin Township, in order that he might be at home with his mother, to whom he was devotedly attached, and whose health was fast failing, and his presence soothed her dying hours. In the fall of 1868 he returned to college, and resuming his studies, was graduated in March 1870, with all honor for having attained a high standard in his class. He established himself in his profession in Oconomowoc, Wis. But he did not remain there long, however, as in the fall of that year he heard of a good opening for an enterprising young physician at Coon Rapids, Iowa, and proceeding to that place, he opened an office there, and continued there till the spring of 1872, when he located in Nevada, Iowa, the county seat of Story County, which presented a broader field, and during his ten years residence there, he built up an extensive and lucrative practice, becoming one of the leading physicians of the county. In 1882 he retraced his steps to his native county, and opening an office in Danville, he soon had more patients than he could attend to, as his fame as a successful and skillful practitioner had preceded him to his old home; but under the continuous strain of overwork his health gave way, and he was forced to retire from the arduous duties of his profession, and having a natural taste for out-of door labor, and, as a wise physician fully believing in its health restoring properties, he came to Catlin Township in 1884 and went to farming, and has ever since devoted himself to that occupation. He owns a fine farm of sixty acres, and has it under excellent cultivation.

The doctor was married in Carroll County, Iowa, Dec. 29, 1872, to Miss Velora B. Piper, who presides over his home with true grace, and makes it cosy and attractive to its inmates and to their numerous friends, and even the stranger that happens under its roof is kindly made welcome. Mrs. Boggess is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Bedford County, Jan. 8, 1853, a daughter of Thomas A. and Mary (Funk) Piper. The following is the record of the four children born to her and her husband: Charles Wesley, born March 2, 1874, died Aug. 8, 1874; Carrie M., born July 6, 1875; Walter Thomas, April 24, 1879; Genevieve, April 28, 1888.

The doctor possesses, in a rare degree, those noble traits of character that mark a man of honor and veracity, one in whom his fellow-citizens feel they may safely put their trust. He is a man of extensive learning and information, and on his retirement from active practice, the medical profession of Vermilion County lost one of its most able members. He is greatly interested in the welfare of his native township, and takes an active part in everything that tends to promote its moral elevation, educational or material status, and is especially active in religious affairs, he and his wife being esteemed members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he has been an active Sunday-school worker, holding the office of superintendent and also being a teacher. He is influential in political matters, being one of the leading Republicans in this vicinity, and a member of the Republican Central Committee of 1888, of his township.

HON. CHARLES A. ALLEN, member of the Thirty-sixth General Assembly, from the Thirty-first District, comprising Vermilion and Edgar counties, was elected on the Republican ticket, first in 1884, and re-elected twice thereafter, having entered now upon his third term. He has been a member of the Judicial Committee and several other important committees, including Insurance, and has served as Chairman of the Railroad and Warehouse Committee, also of Corporations and Educational Institutions. During the Logan fight he was the first man on the roll call, at that time a very important position. He has frequently represented his district in State and other conventions and is in all respects a very prominent man in Eastern Illinois.

Mr. Allen was born in Danville, July 6, 1851, and removed with his parents when a child of two years to the Ridge where they were the earliest settlers. Charles A., upon leaving the district school prepared himself to become a student of

Yours Truly
J. G. Cannon.

Michigan University from the Law Department of which he was graduated in 1875. He commenced the practice of his profession at Rossville where he remained until 1881, then changed his residence to Hoopeston, which has since remained his home. In addition to a lucrative law practice, he has been largely engaged as a real estate dealer, and has occupied many positions of trust and responsibility among his fellow citizens. Socially, he is a charter member of the K. of P. and is identified with the I. O. O. F. and Masonic fraternity.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Mary, daughter of L. M. Thompson, of Rossville, was celebrated April 4, 1878. A sketch of Mr. Thompson appears elsewhere in this volume. Of this union there have been born two children—John N. and Lawrence T. The father of our subject was William I. Allen, one of the first settlers of Vermilion County, and a sketch of whom appears on another page.

HON. JOSEPH G. CANNON, Member of Congress representing the Danville district of Illinois. On the opposite page appears a portrait of this gentleman, who has been for many years a prominent factor in the official, social and political life of this section of the State, and who has made a national reputation as a legislator and a statesman.

For many years there was a large exodus of the Society of Friends from North Carolina to the Wabash Valley, who left their former homes to get away from the curse of slavery. Among the number was Dr. Horace F. Cannon, who, accompanied by his family, removed in 1840 to make his home in Park County, Ind. Thus, far removed from the scenes of their youth he and his wife passed the residue of life in the Northern country, surrounded by old friends who had also come North, and by many new friends whom they had met in their new home. Dr. Cannon was in early manhood united in marriage with Gulielma Hollingsworth. He was a native of Greensboro, N. C., and in his early maturity practiced his profession, being a physician and surgeon. After his removal to the Wabash Valley he passed the remainder of his life in the practice of his profession, and died an accidental death in 1851 when he was forty-five years of age. He was a man of character and considerable local note, being a prominent early Abolitionist.

Joseph G. Cannon, of whom this brief record is written, was born in New Garden, Guilford Co., N. C., May 7, 1836. His education was received at the Western Manual Labor School, now known as Bloomingdale Academy. At the age of fifteen his school work ended, and for five years thereafter he was engaged as a clerk in a store.

At the age of twenty-one, having a strong desire for professional life, Mr. Cannon entered the law office of the Hon. John P. Usher, who afterward became one of President Lincoln's secretaries. In 1859 he was admitted to the bar to practice in the courts of the State of Illinois, and located at Tuscola, Douglas Co., Ill., for the practice of his profession, in which he continued until 1872. In that year he was elected to Congress, and has since been consecutively re-elected, now serving his ninth term. He made Tuscola his home until 1876, when he removed to Danville, where he has for many years resided.

Mr. Cannon now stands as one of the foremost men in the House of Representatives. His position he owes to the confidence of his constituency, who have given him long service, and to his industry in the public service. His early preparation was not all he would have desired, as he was deprived of a college course, and for financial reasons was compelled to enter the law practice as soon as he could, so it was only by strenuous exertion that he fitted himself for the responsible position he occupies.

After serving for six years on the Committee for Post-offices and Post-roads, Congressman Cannon was appointed a member of the Committee on Appropriations, on which he has served until the present time. Said Mr. Cannon, with the justifiable pride and satisfaction arising from having accomplished a good work: "I had charge of the Postal Appropriation Bill while on Committee, upon which legislation was had reducing letter postage from three to two cents, and containing other important

postal revisions and reforms." During the Forty-seventh Congress the Republicans had control of the House. In this same Congress Mr. Cannon was continued on Appropriations, having special charge of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Bill, which carries appropriation for the officials of the Public Service, and upon which many reforms were wrought. For many years, being the head of the minority on that committee, it has fallen to him to make a statement of the estimates and appropriations for and expenditures by the Government. It has usually been received by Congress and the country as authoritative and exhaustive.

The Republicans have a small majority in the present Congress, which will organize the first Monday of December next (1889). It seems to be generally conceded that from seniority of service and equipment for work, Mr. Cannon will be chosen Chairman of the Committee on the organization of the House, unless he is elected Speaker, for which position he is a candidate. His service in the House, his acquaintance with public men and affairs has given him good standing with the Republicans, and also with those of the opposite party, who respect him for his sincerity and honesty, even though they differ with him in politics. His party in the House of Representatives did him the honor for six years of making him Chairman of its Caucus and of the Caucus Committee, which has charge primarily of suggesting the policy of the Republicans in the House touching matters of legislation.

Mr. Cannon being engaged in politics, has paid but little attention to law practice of late years. He has business interests in the city of Danville, and also owns farms both in Vermilion and Douglass counties.

Although politics has engaged a great deal of the consideration and thought of Mr. Cannon, he has spared the necessary time to found home ties of his own. His marriage was solemnized on the 7th of January, 1862, with Miss Mary P. Reed, of Canfield, Ohio. Their union has been blessed by the birth of two daughters, Helen and Mabel, who are now at home, having recently finished their college education. Thus Congressman Cannon, in his leisure hours, partakes of the enjoyment of a beautiful home, and the society of those he loves, and whose interests are ever uppermost in his mind.

WALKER T. BUTLER is an enterprising wheelwright of Sidell. He located in this village in December, 1887, at which time he erected his shop on Chicago street. He has laid the foundation for a large business, which is constantly increasing, and in the spring of 1889 he enlarged his business in a substantial manner. Mr. Butler is one of the solid men of his adopted town, and one whose word is as good as a bank note.

On February 23, 1840, Mr. Butler first saw the light of day in Edgar County, Ill., about a mile from Chrisman. His father, Asa Butler, was born near Lexington, Ky., while his mother, Catharine Porter, is a native of Madison County, that State. The Butlers were originally from Virginia, and came to Kentucky in an early day. The father was a blacksmith, the entire male portion of the family of Butlers being mechanics. One of the uncles was a cabinet maker at the age of ninety-two, and the subject of this sketch saw him at work making spinning wheels at that great age. In 1834 Asa Butler and his wife removed to Vermilion County, settling close to Indianola, erecting a shop there. He left this place and went to Chrisman, where he remained for a long time. This couple are the parents of nine children, whose names are given: Ephraim P., Elizabeth A., William F., Ellen F., Walker Turner, Sanie F., Lucinda C., Rosa A. and and an infant child, the two latter being deceased. The father died at Indianola in 1878 at the age of seventy-two years, while the mother is still living on the old Butler homestead.

Ephraim resides in Richardson County, Neb.; Samuel is in the employ of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company at South Omaha, Neb., as a billing clerk; Eliza is living in Indianola with her mother; William F. was accidentally killed by a traveling man who mistook his head for a prairie chicken; the man afterward went insane; Ellen F. is the wife of James R. Adams, who is farming near Georgetown; Lu-

cinda C. married Melvin L. Porter, who is engaged in the clothing business at Danville; Walker, of whom this sketch is written, was reared on a farm, working alternately at farming and in the blacksmithshop. His schooling was obtained in the subscription schools. His first attendance upon the public school was in Edgar County, Ill., where the schoolhouse was erected by subscription, and built of logs. He worked on the farm nine months, attending school the balance of the year. He continued in this way until he became eighteen years of age, when he went to work exclusively at his trade. On March 26, 1861, he was married to Miss Susan J. Porter, daughter of Richard Porter, and a half-sister of Mrs. Hewes. Her mother was Elizabeth Howard. The Porters originally came from Woodford County, Ky., emigrating to Illinois in 1834.

At the time the War of the Rebellion broke out Mr. Butler was a half owner in a shop, and had just passed his honeymoon. There was every inducement for him to remain at home, and prosper in his business, but his duty lay in enlisting in the Union army, which he did in May, 1861, by joining Company D, 25th Illinois Infantry, being mustered into service on June 4, following, at Danville. His regiment drilled at Arsenal Park, St. Louis, for two months, and here he was elected Captain of his company. He was young and inexperienced, and being modest, he refused to serve, but afterwards accepted the position of Sergeant. On account of a severe wound in the right foot, he was honorably discharged, after which he came home, and devoted his entire attention to his trade. His army record was a brilliant one, and the men are very few who would refuse a commission as he did, which exhibits his entire unselfishness and patriotism. He remained in Indianola until 1879, when he removed to Ridge Farm, there engaging in business at his trade until 1887, when he came to his present location.

Mr. Butler is one of the original members and organizers of the Baptist Church of Sidell, which came into existence May 2, 1889, and of which he was elected Deacon. He has belonged to this church since he was eighteen years of age, and for twenty-two years was Superintendent of a Sabbath-school. He is also Vice-President of the Sunday-school Association of Carroll Township. Mr. Butler belongs to Vermilion Lodge, No. 265, A. F. & A. M., and was its Master for three terms, and also its delegate to the Grand Lodge at Chicago in the years 1873, 1874 and 1875. He is also a charter member of the C. A. Clark Post, No. 184, G. A. R., located at Ridge Farm. The office of School Director has been filled by him for fifteen years.

Mr. and Mrs. Butler have had five children: Melvine S., Gracie E., Adoniram J., Leslie F., Bessie and Willie. Melvine S. was educated at the Jacksonville Blind Institute. He died, and his parents deeply felt his loss. Gracie E. is the wife of John Fletcher, a farmer of Edgar County, Ill.; they have three children: Henry T., Howard and Charles. Adoniram J. and the rest of the children are living at home. Mr. Butler is a stanch Republican, and for several years has served his party on the County Central Committee. He has always been in favor of temperance laws, and their strict enforcement, and it was largely through his instrumentality that the sale of whisky was finally abolished in Carroll Township. Mr. Butler is one of the very best men of Vermilion County, and is so regarded by his neighbors.

WILLIAM CAST. The subject of this notice is numbered among the pioneer residents and well-to-do farmers of this county, who carved out their fortunes by the labor of their hands, and to whom we are indebted for the development of the rich resources of the Prairie State. Mr. Cast has been a resident of Danville Township for a long period, and is held in high repute among its best citizens.

The subject of our sketch was born in Vernon Township, Clinton Co., Ohio, April 17, 1821, and is the son of Aquilla and Mary (Villars) Cast, the former born in Kentucky, Dec. 7, 1799, and the latter born in Pennsylvania, Dec. 13, 1798. The paternal grandfather, Ezekiel Cast, is supposed to have been likewise a native of Kentucky, whence he removed to Ohio in 1805, while it was in the

third year of its dignity as a State. He was one of the earliest pioneers of Clinton County, and purchased a tract of timber land in Vernon Township, where he improved a farm and resided until his death.

The father of our subject was quite young when his parents removed to Ohio. He was reared and married in Clinton County, and purchased land in Vernon Township, where he engaged in farming until his death in September, 1831. The mother survived her husband for a period of twenty-five years, and died in Clinton County in 1856. Her father, James Villars, is supposed to have been a native of Pennsylvania, whence he removed to Ohio in 1806, making the journey down the river, and landing at Cincinnati, which was then in its embryo state. He also, like grandfather Cast, was one of the earliest pioneers of Clinton County, and like him cleared a farm from the wilderness, where he spent his last days. He married Miss Rebecca Davis, of Pennsylvania, and she also died in Clinton County, Ohio.

Aquilla Cast, and his estimable wife became the parents of eight children, seven of whom grew to mature years, and of whom William, our subject, was the fourth in order of birth. He was only ten years old when his father died, but remained on the farm with his mother, acquiring his education in the common school and becoming familiar with the labors incident to the routine of farm life. He continued a resident of Clinton County until 1843, then started out to seek his fortunes, his destination being this county. He was equipped with a team of horses and a wagon and accompanied by his family, they bringing with them their household goods. After fourteen days' travel they landed in Danville Township, and Mr. Cast, in the fall of that year, purchased 100 acres of land, the nucleus of his present farm.

There were no railroads in Illinois for some years after Mr. Cast settled in this county, and for a long period Covington and Perrysville were the nearest markets. Deer, turkeys and other game were plentiful. The Cast family battled with many difficulties and some hardships, and underwent the usual experience of life on the frontier. Our subject proceeded steadily with the improvement of his property, and was greatly prospered in his labors. As time passed on, he added to his landed estate, and now has a well-improved farm of 320 acres. He has erected good buildings, and has gathered around himself and his family all the comforts and conveniences of modern life.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Rachel Villars was celebrated at the bride's home in Clinton County, Ohio, Oct. 28, 1843. Mrs. Cast was born in Vernon Township, Clinton Co., Ohio, May 16, 1823. Her father, William Villars, was born in Pennsylvania, Aug. 31, 1802, and is the son of James and Rebecca Villars, who removed to Ohio when he was four years old. He was reared in the Buckeye State, and married Miss Ruth Whittaker, a native of Clinton County. Her parents were Oliver and Mary Whittaker, natives of New Jersey, who removed to Clinton County, Ohio, during its early settlement. The father of Mrs. Cast inherited a large tract of land in that county, where he carried on farming until 1843. He then came to this county, purchasing land in Danville Township, and has been a resident here since that time, and is now in his ninety-seventh year.

To Mr. and Mrs. Cast there were born four children, the eldest of whom, James W., married Miss Ella Farris, and is the father of two children—Mabel and Minnie. John Oliver married Mary Thayer, and has two children—George and Carrie. Mary is the wife of Perry Brown, of Chetopa, Kan. George Aquilla died at the age of nineteen months. In politics Mr. Cast has been a staunch Democrat, as was also his father, and Mrs. Cast also.

ANDREW H. KIMBROUGH, M. D., was born near Elizabethtown, Hardin Co., Ky., on the 27th day of February, 1823. His father, Richard C. Kimbrough, was a native of Wexhall County, S. C., and his grandfather, Goldman Kimbrough, was born in the State of Virginia. The Kimbrough family settled early in Virginia, and in Colonial times owned a large tract of land and were extensive farmers. They served with distinguished ability in the Revolutionary War. The grandfather of Andrew H.

Kimbrough removed from Virginia to South Carolina after the Revolutionary War and later to Alabama, where he bought large blocks of land, and where he died in 1835. He was a large slave-owner.

Richard C. Kimbrough, the father of Dr. Kimbrough, was under age when the War of 1812 broke out, and in order to enlist, he ran away from home and served in the army until the close of the war. He was in several battles including the Horse Shoe fight and was with Gen. Jackson at New Orleans. He was wounded in the former battle. After the close of the war he went with some of his comrades to Hardin County, Ky., and there taught school until his marriage, and then with a brother, he engaged in the business of tanning. In 1825 he emigrated to Illinois and was therefore a pioneer of Edgar County. The removal was made with teams, bringing all the household goods along, camping out on the way. He entered a tract of eighty acres of land in Wayne, now Stratton Township. There was no house on the place and he was compelled to rent a cabin, but in the following spring he erected a house on his his own land, which was surmounted by a stick and clay chimney. There were no sawmills in the county, a fact which compelled him to make his own boards in order to build the doors. He had no nails and so used wooden pegs instead. The old fashioned fire-place was used to cook food in those days, stoves being an unknown utensil in the economy of kitchen work. The cloth with which they made their clothes was constructed from yarn spun entirely by hand. He bought another eighty acres of land which added to his former purchase made a good farm. He died in 1833. The maiden name of the mother of the subject of this sketch was Jane Morrison, a native of Kentucky. Her father, James Morrison, it was thought was born in Virginia and removed from there to Kentucky and settled in Hardin County. He was a farmer and spent his last years there. The maiden name of his wife was Mary McWilliams. She was born in Virginia and removed to Kentucky with her parents in 1791. This family were pioneers of Hardin County, where they brought a large tract of timber land and improved a farm which Mr. McWilliams afterward lost on an old claim. Mr. McWilliams spent his last years in that State. The mother of our subject was married a second time in 1847 to Hall Sims and resided in Edgar County until her death.

Andrew H. Kimbrough was eleven years old when his father died leaving his mother with six children to care for. He resided with his guardian until 1842, and then returned home and managed the farm for his mother until her second marriage, when he purchased her interest in the farm. He continued farming until 1854. He had some time before resumed the study of medicine, but had to abandon that on the account of the lack of funds, but later he again took up the study and graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in March, 1858. In that year he commenced practice at Georgetown, this county, and continued so doing until 1873, when he removed to Danville and has practiced there continuously since that time. He married Sarah Ashmore, who was born in Clark County, April 10, 1820. She was a daughter of Amos and Patience Ashmore, natives of Tennessee. They were truly pioneers of Clark County, Ill.

Andrew H. Kimbrough is the father of three children—Laura H., E. R. Eugene, and Lillie A. T. Politically, he is a Democrat, and socially, is a member of Franklin Lodge K. of H. He joined the I. O. O. F. in 1850 and has filled all the chairs.

HENRY DAVIS. The man who ventured into Central Illinois during its pioneer days is worthy of more than a passing mention. Few who did not undergo the experience can have a full realization of the hard lot of the early settlers. The distant markets, the inadequate price for the crops which they raised under great difficulties, the inferior educational advantages, and the miasma from the frequently low, wet land, which confronted the pioneers with illness—a physician miles away—and the generally wild condition of their surroundings, no railroads or stage lines, and in some sections scarcely a well-defined wagon track, made

life in the pioneer times a dire struggle frequently for existence.

The subject of this sketch has had a full experience of pioneer life in all its details, but at the same time he has been the privileged witness of changes almost miraculous. He was born in this county, May 5, 1841, his father, William Davis, being among the earliest pioneers. The latter was a native of Ohio, and descended from excellent Scotch-Irish stock. He was prospered in his labors as a tiller of the soil of Illinois, and in due time became the owner of 2,000 acres of land, a large portion of which he gave to his children.

The father of our subject still has about 1,000 acres of land, all in this county, and is likewise interested in the hardware business at Fairmount, while he has considerable other property. The mother, Mrs. Elizabeth (Hayes) Davis, was a native of Ohio, and the parental household included ten children, six of whom are living, and of whom Henry is the fourth in order of birth. He, like his brothers and sisters, pursued his early studies in the old log schoolhouse, the system of instruction of that day being fully in keeping with the fashion and furnishings of the temple of learning, into which light was admitted through greased paper, and the seats and desks of which were made of slabs, the floor of puncheon, a wide fireplace extending nearly across one end, and the chimney built outside of dirt and sticks. Young Davis attended school mostly on stormy days, when he could not work at home. He had few companions and little recreation, as the county was very thinly settled, and for a distance of forty miles south there was not a single cultivated farm.

Our subject remained at home working with his father until about twenty-two years old, and then determined to strike out for himself. The first interesting event which followed was his marriage with Miss Nancy Cox, on the 24th of December, 1863. This lady remained the companion of her husband less than nine years, her decease taking place Oct. 24, 1874, leaving no children. Their wedded life had been begun in a log house on the present farm of Mr. Davis, and that humble dwelling is still standing. Mr. Davis was married a second time, Sept. 7, 1875, to Miss Rebecca E. Baird. This union resulted in the birth of three children—Fred L., born May 24, 1876; Grace Elizabeth, July 30, 1877; and Sarah Mabel, Dec. 18, 1878. Mrs. Rebecca E. (Baird) Davis departed this life July 18, 1880.

On the 5th of April, 1881, Mr. Davis was married a third time, to Miss M. Belle, daughter of Nathan B. and Mary F. (Wilson) Pemberton. Mr. Pemberton was a native of Ohio, and his wife of Kentucky. The father of Mrs. Davis left his native State, when twenty-one years old, going to Kentucky, where he engaged in farming and was married. Nineteen years ago they left the Blue Grass State for Indiana, where they lived on a farm for seven years, then came to this county, and settled two miles northwest of Fairmount. After living there two years they made another removal, and are now living one and one-half miles west of Catlin, in the enjoyment of good health, Mr. Pemberton being sixty-seven and his wife fifty-eight years old.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pemberton there were born seven children, five of whom are living, and of whom Mrs. Davis was the third. She first opened her eyes to the light in Maysville, Ky., July 29, 1855. She received excellent educational advantages, and grew up an attractive and accomplished young woman, fitting herself for a teacher, and pursuing this calling in Indiana prior to her marriage. Mr. Pemberton some years ago was wounded by an ax in his own hands, which struck his knee, and which resulted in confining him to the house for three years thereafter. He has suffered from this almost continuously since that time. He has been a plain and upright man and a member of the Baptist Church, while Mrs. Pemberton belongs to the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Davis erected his present residence about 1874, and in connection with his farming operations gives considerable attention to live stock, raising about seventy-five head of swine annually, besides graded cattle and horses. His farm comprises 120 acres of land, including a timber strip of fifteen acres. One year he was engaged in the grocery trade at Fairmount. Politically he has always been a strong Democrat, and has held the office of Commissioner of Highways for the past nine years. He is a School Director in his district,

and for five years past has been President of the Vermilion County Agricultural and Mechanical Association. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Fair Association, and is crop reporter for the Agricultural Department at Springfield. He has exercised no small influence upon party politics in this region, officiating as a member of the Central Committee, and as a delegate to the various county conventions. Both he and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, in which Mr. Davis has labored faithfully in the Sunday-school, and officiated as Librarian. Without making any pretensions to elegance, the Davis homestead is without question the abode of peace and comfort, and while the head of the family has acquitted himself in a creditable manner, his very intelligent and amiable partner, a lady of great worth and refinement, has fulfilled her whole duty in making home the most attractive spot on earth for those dearest to her.

LABAN GRITTEN is classed among the leading farmers and stock raisers of Pilot Township, he having contributed much towards making it a great agricultural center. His farm on section 22 is comparable with the finest and best in this section of Vermilion County, is so cultivated as to produce large harvests, and its buildings and all other appointments are first-class. Mr. Gritten has evolved this desirable farm from the wild prairies of Illinois, as they were many years ago, before they had been changed by cultivation, it having been government land when he purchased it more than thirty years ago, and situated in the midst of a sparsely populated, scarcely civilized country.

Mr. Gritten is a Kentuckian by birth, born in Mercer County, Jan. 19, 1832. His father, John R. Gritten, was born in the same county in 1807. He married Nancy Atkinson, who was born there in 1806, and they came to this county with their family in 1842, and located on a farm of 120 acres, pleasantly situated in Blount Township, where they have built up a comfortable home, and now, in life's decline are enjoying the hard-earned fruits of their united labor. Three of the children that have blessed their union are still living: Ann, residing in Danville Township, is the widow of Frank Watson, of Ohio, and has five children—William, John, Nancy J., Margaret and Martha; Lloyd married Sarah Gritten, daughter of one of the first settlers of the county, and they have four children—Wesley, Annie, Ella and Elisha; Laban is the subject of this sketch, and we will write further of him.

We have seen that his parents brought him here in pioneer times, when he was a mere lad, and here they bred him to a life of usefulness, and fitted him for an honorable career, and to their careful training he doubtless owes much of his prosperity. He became manly, self-reliant and a good worker, and in early manhood prudently invested his money in government land, proposing to make farming his life work, and purchased 320 acres of land at twenty-five cents an acre. He now has the land all under excellent cultivation, and has greatly increased its value by the many fine improvements that he has made, including substantial buildings, etc. He does a general farming business, has his farm well stocked with stock of high grades, from the sale of which he makes good profits, and he raises a good deal of grain and other farm produce, from which he derives an income amply sufficing to carry on his agricultural operations in good shape, and for all his personal wants.

Mr. Gritten has been twice married. His first wife was a Miss Sarah Potter, who was of English descent, and her father, an early settler of this part of Illinois, took part in the Black Hawk War under General Taylor. Five children were born to our subject in that union, of whom one died; the others are Orsmus, Charles, Edward and Thomas. Orsmus, a carpenter in Danville, married Miss May Gritten; Charles, living with his father on the homestead, married Matilda Gritten, and they have seven children—Clarence, Arthur, Orsmus, Elzora, Oliver, Ross and Rock. Edward, a farmer in this county, married Miss Belle Davis, of Ohio, and they have one child, Jesse B.; Thomas, a blacksmith at Bixby, married Martha Schank, and they have three children —Earl, Maude and Olive.

For his second wife Mr. Gritten married Miss Lydia Pile, a native of Breckenridge County, Ky.,

and of their eleven children the following five are living: Oracena, Alvina, Jacob, Eli and William.

William and Elizabeth Pile were the parents of Mrs. Gritten, the father a native of Virginia, the mother a native of Kentucky, and both are deceased.

Mr. Gritten may well be proud of his farm, whose increased value is due to his hard labor and excellent business capacity and management. He possesses sober judgment, keen discernment and a resolute nature that has overcome all obstacles in the path to success. In his political views he sides with the Democrats, and gives his hearty approval to party measures.

ZACHARIAH C. HOLLOWAY. Among quite a company of young men who came to this county at different times in the spring of 1853, was a young man named Holloway, plainly attired and with no means to speak of, quiet and unobtrusive in his demeanor but with the fixed purpose of giving the Western country a fair trial in the building up of a future home. He was not prepared to purchase land and so was obliged to locate upon a rented farm in Blount Township which had been but slightly improved and offered few advantages to the pioneer. Upon this amid many difficulities he prosecuted farming for a period of four years, then changed his residence to Newell Township where he sojourned two years. His next removal was to a farm adjoining that which he now owns and occupies, in the southern part of Ross Township. This brought him up to 1859 in which year he purchased eighty acres of wild prairie and two years later established himself upon it with his young wife in a log cabin.

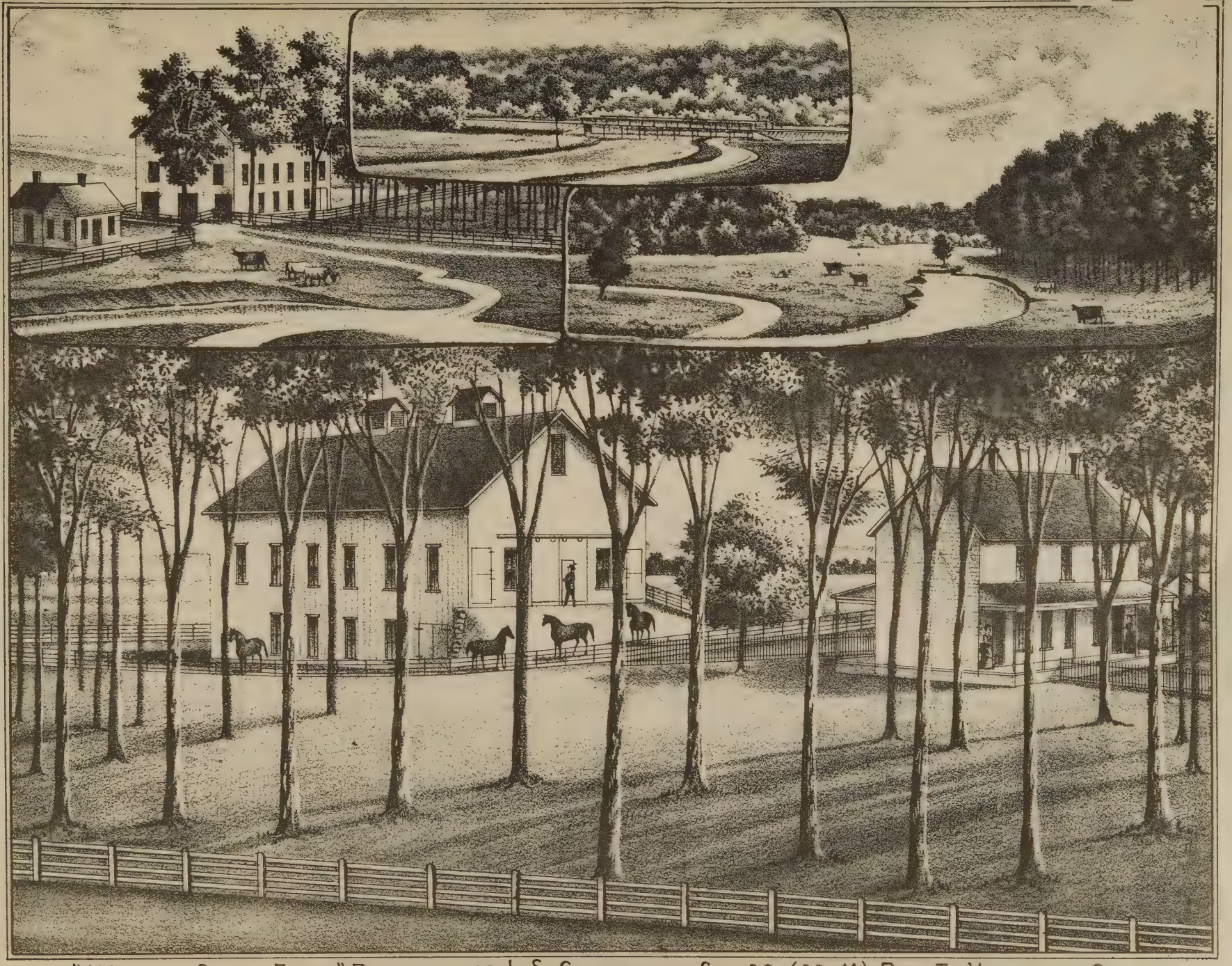
Mr. Holloway began the cultivation of his land with an ox team and in the meantime made his home in Newell, then a very unimportant village. In the spring of 1860 he hired thirty acres plowed, which he planted in corn. From that time on he labored industriously early and late until he had eighty acres under a high state of cultivation and had erected a neat and substantial house and barn besides effecting other improvements. As opportunity permitted he planted fruit and shade trees and after a number of years found himself in a condition to purchase additional land and thus invested his surplus capital until he became the owner of 400 acres. For many years he has dealt in cattle realizing therefrom handsome returns.

Our subject generously acknowledges that he has been greatly assisted and encouraged in his labors and struggles by his excellent wife, who bore with her husband the heat and burden of the day and assisted him in saving as well as earning. They are the parents of four children, all living, namely: Albert, Alford, Frank, and Ivy, the wife of C. R. Crawford, of Ross Township.

Upon becoming a voting citizen Mr. Holloway identified himself with the Republican party and later cordially endorsed Republican doctrines. He has made a speciality of attending to his own concerns and consequently has meddled very little with public affairs, having no desire for the responsibilities of office. His pleasant home with its attractive surroundings and his intelligent family have largely supplied his social needs, although he is not lacking for troops of friends among the people whose intelligence always leads them to respect the man who has been the architect of his own fortune and who has made the most of his opportunities, adding to the talent with which nature endowed him.

John Holloway, the father of our subject, was the son of Elijah Holloway, a native of Maryland and one of eight children. The others were named respectively, Adam, William, Elijah, Armel, Frances, Hettie and Mary. John also was born in Maryland, where he was reared to man's estate and married Miss Elizabeth Davis. About 1804, with a party of probably eighty persons, they set out across the mountains with teams and landed in Ross County, Ohio, where it is believed the grandparents also settled. The journey at that time was a dangerous one, the country being infested with desperate characters, who frequently murdered travelers for their money. The trip occupied about six weeks and the Holloway family fortunately were not molested.

The parents of our subject settled in the heavy timber of Ross County, Ohio, where Zachariah C.



"WALNUT GROVE FARM". RESIDENCE OF J. S. CHRISTMAN, SEC. 22. (22.-11.) ROSS TP. VERMILION CO.

was born June 16, 1824, and where the parents spent their last days. The father died in September 1863, at the age of eighty-five years and the mother at the same age, in March, 1865. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the faith of which they serenely passed away. Many and great were the hardships endured by the pioneers in the wilderness of Ross County and our subject like his brothers and sisters was taught to make himself useful at a very early age. He assisted in clearing the farm and received a limited education in the subscription school. His life passed quietly and uneventfully during his boyhood and youth, and like the other young men of that day and place, his chief ambition was in due time to have a farm and a fireside of his own.

Our subject continued a resident of his native county until his marriage, in 1849. The maiden of his choice was Miss Mary, daughter of Joshua Shockley, formerly of Delaware, but who, like the Holloways, was an early pioneer of the Buckeye State. Mrs. Holloway was born in Delaware and was take by her parents to Ohio when about two years old. Her father died there, in 1841. The mother later came to this county and made her home with her daughter, her death occurring in May, 1888.

JOSEPH S. CHRISTMAN is emphatically one of the business men of Vermilion County, who has risen to prominence through his own exertions. He was born on the 30th day of January, 1855. He spent his boyhood days with his parents until he became seventeen years of age, when being of a studious mind, he went to Indianapolis and attended business college in that city, where he graduated. After leaving school he returned to Warren County, Ind , where his parents were living at the time, and remained there for a short period engaged in a dry goods store in Attica. He returned to Indianapolis and entered into the elastic roofing business at 241 Massachusetts Ave., being successfully employed for one year. He then bought a grocery store on Meridian street, where he carried on a good business for a period of one year, when he sold out and came to Rossville, Ill., where he landed in his twenty-first year with about $4,000. He contemplated purchasing a half interest in the dry goods store of Henderson & Co., but the company making arrangements more satisfactory to themselves, our subject found he could invest his money to a good advantage by loaning it and did so, in the meantime entering the employ of the dry goods firm mentioned as clerk. About this time he bought 600 acres of his present home of 1,100 acres of land upon which he erected his present farm buildings, and where he now lives.

Joseph S. Christman is the son of Isaac and Elizabeth Christman, who are natives of Ohio, but who came to Illinois when they were young. They were married Oct. 25, 1843, when they immediately moved to Warren County, Ind., where they settled on a farm which they conducted for two years, at the expiration of which period, they came back to Vermilion County, settling here on a quarter section of land where they now live. The family comprised the following children—Sarah J., is at home; Susan G., is the wife of W. H. Lincoln and is living in West Lebanon, Ind.; Mary H., is the wife of H. C. Swisher and they also reside in the same place; Eliza E., was killed when nineteen years of age by being thrown from a carriage; Maria C., is the wife of William Hunter, a farmer who is living in Warren County, Ind.; Joseph S., of whom this sketch is written; Frank is in the real estate business at York, Neb.; Mahala L., died when two years of age. The mother of this family Mrs. Elizabeth Christman, died July 8, 1872. She was an ardent member of the Methodist Church, and sustained a fine reputation in her neighborhood. Mr. Isaac Christman is quietly living with his son, Joseph, and enjoying his latter days in a manner which he has won by hard work. He is a Republican in politics, and takes great interest in his party.

Mr. Joseph S. Christman is a dealer in live stock shipping considerable quantities every year to Chicago. He makes a specialty in breeding Hambletonian horses, of which breed he owns several fine specimens. Politically, Mr. Christman is a Republican and has held the office of Township Trustee for a long time. He is also a member of the Ma-

sonic fraternity, having joined that order in 1876, by uniting with Lodge No. 527 at Rossville. He is also a member of the Oriental Consistory which meets on Monroe street, Chicago. His career in business is a good illustration of what grit and intelligence can do, and should be emulated by others of the younger generation. Mr. Christman is unmarried, but has succeeded in making a very comfortable home, and the view given in this volume, represents a residence that in no wise displays the absence of a mistress.

DR. GEORG EDENS. In the person of this able practitioner the biographer discovers a gentleman in love with his profession—one who adopted it on account of the keen interest which he has taken in it almost from boyhood, and whose aim has been to excel. He has been located in Danville for the past ten years, and it is not surprising to learn that he has built up a lucrative patronage among its best people. He has been faithful and conscientious in the discharge of his duties, and aimed to gain a full understanding of the disorders which he has been called upon to remedy before making the application of chemicals or drugs.

Dr. Edens was born in the Province of Holstein, Germany, June 16, 1851, and remained a resident of his native province until 1867. Then, a youth of sixteen years, he crossed the Atlantic with his parents, they settling on a tract of land in Champaign County, this State. The father prosecuted farming, while the son, who also assisted around the homestead, continued the reading of medicine, which he had begun when a lad of fifteen years. Two years later, in 1868, he began to dispense medicine to his acquaintances, and there followed such excellent results from his prescriptions that before he had realized the fact he had quite a number of regular patrons.

In 1876 young Edens repaired to Chicago and entered Hahnemann College, from which he was graduated in 1879, after taking the special courses. On the 17th of March, that year, he came to Danville, and commenced the regular practice of his chosen profession, which he has since followed with really surprising results. He adopts many of the customs common to the Fatherland, where the students of medicine are subjected to the most thorough training, and not allowed to practice until they are masters in their profession.

The office of Dr. Edens is situated on North Street, near the Chicago & Eastern Illinois depot, where he has around him his books and the various appliances requisite for his extensive business. He not only has a large practice in Danville, but also in the country surrounding it. He repairs to different points at regular intervals, usually once a month. There is every indication that he has before him a most prosperous future, and the prospects of attaining to eminence in his profession. He has naturally been too full of business to give much attention to politics, but has become fully identified and in sympathy with American institutions, and usually votes for the men and not the party.

Dr. Edens was married in Danville, March 14, 1885, to Miss Frances Kœhler, who was born in Posen, Germany, April 30, 1859. She came to America in 1881, after having acquired a careful education, and thereafter was employed as a private teacher in German and French, and also in the public schools of St. Louis and Chicago. Mrs. Edens likewise possesses considerable musical talent, and is at once recognized as a very accomplished and intelligent lady. They occupy a pleasant and attractive home, and enjoy the friendship of the best citizens of Danville.

SAMUEL COOK, the son of a pioneer family of Vermilion County, as one of its practical, well-to-do farmers, a man of sound sense and good understanding, is classed among its most desirable citizens. His homestead on section 11, Catlin Township, comprising 160 acres, is one of the finest in the vicinity, and he has 100 acres of excellent farming land in Georgetown Township besides valuable property in Danville.

James Cook, the father of our subject, was born

either in Maryland or Virginia, June 23, 1797. In early manhood he was united in marriage to Miss Susanna Moyer, their union taking place Oct. 6, 1822. She was born in Pennsylvania, Dec. 2, 1803, and is still living at an advanced age. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cook settled in Clermont County, Ohio, living there among its early pioneers till 1834, when they migrated across the country with their family to Vermilion County and became early settlers of Brook's Point in Georgetown. There the father rounded out a useful life, holding the respect and esteem of all about him as he was in all respects a good man. The wedded life of himself and wife was blessed to them by the birth of six sons and five daughters.

Our subject was the second child of the family, and he was born in Clermont County, Ohio, Oct. 4, 1825. He was nine years old when he came to Vermilion County with his parents more than fifty years ago, but he still retains a recollection of that memorable journey through the forests primeval and over the wild prairies to this then sparsely settled country. He grew to man's estate in Georgetown Township, and gleaned an education in the old log school-house in which the children of the pioneers were taught the rudiments of learning. He remained with his father and mother till he was twenty-six and a half years old, when he married and established a home of his own. He has devoted himself principally to farming, and through many years of persistent toil has accumulated a goodly amount of property, including one of the best farms in Catlin Township. He has his land under fine tillage, and has erected a substantial, conveniently arranged set of buildings, including a handsome, roomy residence, replete with all the comforts of life. When he was a young man Mr. Cook assisted in making five flatboats to go down the Vermilion River into the Wabash, and thence down the Ohio and Mississippi, and once he took a trip to Memphis.

Mr. Cook has been twice married. He was first wedded to Miss Amanda M. Graves, April 1, 1852, in Georgetown Township. She was a native of that place, born Aug. 18, 1833, to James and Margaret (Blackbourn) Graves, who were among its earliest pioneers, coming there from Kentucky in 1829, and spending their remaining days on their homestead in that township. By that marriage our subject became the father of six children, of whom the following is recorded: George W. married Eliza Douglas; James P. married Miss Eveline O'Neal; Mary married John H. Wherry; Margaret died when she was eighteen years old; Charles married Miss Celia Padgett; Ellen died when about six months old. Aug. 19, 1866, after a happy married life of fourteen years Mrs. Cook passed away from the scene of her usefulness, and thus was lost to her household a wife who had always striven to aid her husband and make his home pleasant and comfortable, a mother who was devoted to her children, a neighbor who was a kind and true friend.

Mr. Cook was married to his present wife, formerly Mrs. Martha E. (Citizen) Moreland, in Lafayette, Ind., April 14, 1870. Their wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of three children: Bertie J., John F., and Fred. Mrs. Cook was the fourth of the nine children, six sons and three daughters, born to William and Esther (Parker) Citizen, and her birth occurred in Dark County, Ind., July 25, 1838. Her father was born in Maryland, Nov. 10, 1809, and her mother in North Carolina, Aug. 4, 1812, her death occurring in Warren County, Ind. The father survives at an advanced age. When she was two years old Mrs. Cook's parents moved to Wayne County, Ind., and when she was thirteen years old her father brought her to this State. She was married in Warren County, Ind., Aug. 25, 1854, to Joseph Moreland. Of this union there was one son, Charles W., an intelligent, well educated young man, who has been engaged in the profession of school-teaching seven years.

It is said of Mr. and Mrs. Cook that "they are people whom it is a pleasure to meet, so friendly and generous are they toward all who come under their influence, and so kind and considerate are they in their relations with all about them." They are consistent members of the Christian Church — of which he is an elder — contribute liberally to its support, and are never backward in aiding all schemes that look to the moral or social advancement of the community. In our subject the Dem-

ocratic party finds one of its most honest supporters and the township one of the promoters of education within its borders, he having held several of the school offices, and also being School Director for years, discharging the duties thus devolving upon him with characteristic fidelity and to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned.

JOHN L. JACKSON. In the career of this leading business man of Sidell, we recognize the type of the live, energetic American citizen, who has been peculiarly favored by Providence, being the owner of a fine property, the son of one of the wealthiest men in the county, and one of its leading citizens, and having had the happy faculty of improving all his advantages. By his straightforward methods of proceedure he has fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has had dealings. He is at present engaged in general merchandising at Sidell, and is in the enjoyment of a patronage which is steadily increasing. The firm of John L. Jackson & Co. is considered A 1.

Mr. Jackson was born in Douglas County, this State, Sept. 22, 1860, and is the son of Amos and Sarah (Hesseler) Jackson, the former of whom was born near Frankfort, Ind., and the latter in this county. They were married in Michigan. The elder Jackson operates as a farmer and cattle raiser, and is now a resident of Danville. He is represented on another page in this volume. The parental household was completed by the birth of four daughters and two sons, and of these John was the eldest. He was twelve years of age when his parents came to this county, and settled near Indianola, in Carroll Township. Later they removed first to Paris and then to Danville. At the age of nineteen years our subject entered the Commercial College at Terre Haute, from which he was graduated in the class of 1879. Upon leaving school he engaged in buying and shipping stock, with which business he had been familiar since a boy. He shipped his first load from Archie Station, and was occupied at this business until 1883.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Eva Gray was celebrated at the bride's home, in March, 1883. This lady was born and reared in Champaign County, and is the daughter of Henry and Louisa (Weisiger) Gray, who settled in the above-named county in 1861. The father died in 1876, aged about forty years. The mother was subsequently married and now resides near Kankakee. The three daughters were named Eva, Cora and Nettie. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson have one child, a daughter, Meta J.

Mr. Jackson purchased the store and stock of general merchandise belonging to William Danley, the pioneer merchant of Sidell, and in addition to looking after the affairs of this establishment, continues to deal in cattle. Politically, he is an uncompromising Democrat, and socially belongs to Peace Dale Lodge Number 25, I. O. O. F. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen. His farm comprises 172 acres of choice land, pleasantly located southwest of Sidell.

JOHN MILTON DOUGLASS, a prominent and honored citizen of Vermilion County, is classed among its leading farmers and stock-raisers, he having been intimately connected with its agricultural interests for many years; and, the son of parents who were early settlers of this part of Illinois, he may indeed be regarded as a pioneer himself, as since, and even before, attaining man's estate, he has done much to develop the rich resources of this region and make it a great agricultural center. He owns a farm on section 16, Catlin Township, that is justly considered one of the best places in the county, and here he has erected a handsome commodious residence that, with its surroundings, beautiful lawns adorned with shade trees, etc., forms an attractive scene in the landscape, and in this lovely home he is quietly passing his declining years, calmly awaiting life's great change.

The subject of this sketch was born in what is now Ohio County, Ind., Aug. 23, 1823, the second child in a family of ten children, five sons and five daughters, belonging to Thomas W. and Delilah (Payne) Douglass. The former was born in the

State of Maine, on the Penobscot River, and the mother was a native of the State of New York. After marriage they first settled in Dearborn County, Ind., in that part of it now called Ohio County, and thence journeyed to this State in the spring of 1830, and located in Catlin Township, Vermilion County, where the County farm now is, and where they spent their declining years, and the mother closing her eyes in death in September, 1856, and in October, 1865, the father departed this life. They were people of solid merit, who faithfully performed their allotted tasks in life, and, as pioneers of Vermilion County, their memories will ever be held in reverence along with those of other courageous, self-sacrificing spirits who came here in the early days of the settlement of the country, and toiled to make it a fitting home for those who came after them.

Their son John Milton, of whom we write, was seven years old when he accompanied his parents in their migration from the home of his birth to this county, and here the remaining days of his boyhood and youth were passed, and his entire manhood has been spent within the limits of the county. He early began his career as a farmer, and has been greatly prospered in his life work, being the fortunate owner of a fertile farm of 317½ acres that is not surpassed in point of cultivation and value of improvements by any other place in the township. He has erected a commodious, well-built house, a barn fifty feet square on a stone foundation, and other necessary buildings, and has set out numerous beautiful shade and fruit trees, and, taken altogether, he has one of the finest estates in the county. Mr. Douglass' farm is well adapted to stock-raising, and he makes a specialty of Short-horn cattle, and his fine herd of that breed, highly graded, is one of the best in this locality.

On the 14th of November, 1844, the marriage of our subject and Miss Mahala Burroughs was solemnized in Catlin Township, one mile west of the village of Catlin. Mrs. Douglass was born in Ripley County, Ind., April 3, 1824, a daughter of Jesse and Polly (Wilson) Burroughs. Of her union with our subject nine children were born, as follows: Judith A., wife of Joseph Trisler; Winfield S., who married Lizzie Clark; Delilah, who died when she was two years old; Thomas W., who died when he was eleven months old; Clarissa, the wife of James Clipson; Mahala; Pamelia, who died in infancy; Armilda, the wife of Richard O'Conell; and Esther, who died when one week old.

On the 10th of October, 1887, the pleasant wedded life of our subject was brought to a sad close by the death of her with whom he had walked, hand in hand, for more than forty-two years. This amiable wife and companion had been to him all that a true and devoted woman can be to her husband, and to her children she had been a wise and tender mother, and her presence is sorely missed in the household where she had been the home-maker so long. But our subject does not mourn as one without comfort, as his Christian faith points to a reunion beyond the grave.

Mr. Douglass is a man of decided character and sound understanding, and his career has marked him as possessing those qualities that enable man to make his own way in the world without the adventitious aids of fortune and birth. He and five of his children are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and are among its most earnest workers. In politics Mr. Douglass has taken part in the public affairs of the township as School Director and Highway Commissioner. In politics he favors the Democratic party, firmly believing that its policy is the only safe one for the guidance of National affairs.

JOHN B. CRANSON. It is a homely and time-worn adage that "virtue brings its own reward," but the truth of it is frequently brought to mind, as in contemplating the career of Mr. Cranson, which has been that of an honest man and a good citizen, and in which he has performed life's duties in a creditable manner, with the exception that he is still plodding along life's road single-handed and alone, although having passed the fifty-second year of his age. While he may not be the hero of any very thrilling event he has seen much of life in its different phases, and during the Civil War gave his services to assist in

the preservation of the Union. His army record is a creditable one, as has been that of his life after leaving it, when he settled down to farm life again in 1878 on his present farm, and has now one of the attractive homesteads in his township. His specialty is Jersey cattle, and he is likewise interested in the chicken industry, having a goodly number of fine fowls in which he takes a pardonable pride.

The subject of this notice is a native of Lockport, N. Y., and was born April 15, 1837. His parents, Joel and Rhoda (Gray) Cranson, were natives of Massachusetts and Vermont respectively, and lived in New York until 1854, then removed to Michigan, and from the Wolverine State to Indiana, and from there came to Illinois in 1864, where their death occurred; the father died in 1875, and the mother in 1882. They were the parents of six children, three of whom besides our subject are still living.

The union school at Lockport furnished young Cranson with his early education, which was completed at the age of fifteen years. He then began an apprenticeship at the trade of tinsmith, which he followed two years, and after the removal of the family to Michigan he engaged in the lumber business. After their removal to Indiana he became interested in farming. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in 1861 in Company B, 29th Indiana Infantry, and six months later was promoted to the post of Orderly Sergeant. The regiment was organized at La Porte, Ind., was assigned to the command of Gen. McCook, and afterward participated in the battle of Pittsburg Landing, after which he fell and was hurt. Upon recovering sufficiently he was transferred to the veteran reserve corps, in which he remained until the expiration of his term of service. He received his honorable discharge in September, 1864, and after a brief visit to his old home in Indiana set out for Illinois with the view of permanently establishing himself in this State. Prior to entering the army he had purchased a farm in Indiana and sold it before coming to Illinois.

The domestic arrangements of our subject are presided over by his two sisters, and he has one of the pleasantest homes in the county. The sisters are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while Mr. Cranson is identified with the Cumberland Presbyterian. The three operate together in the business of raising chickens, which is carried on by the natural process and by incubators. They market about 800 per year, and have all the modern conveniences for hatching and taking care of the chickens. The whole process is so systematized that the industry is pleasurable as well as profitable. Their cattle are grade Shorthorn and full-blooded Jerseys.

In politics Mr. Cranson uniformly votes the straight Republican ticket. Socially, he is a member of Homer Post, G. A. R., and as a Mason belongs to Blue Lodge and the Chapter in Homer, in the latter of which he is Master of Third Veil. Both in social and business circles he occupies an enviable position, and is one of those men whose word is considered as good as his bond.

HENRY G. BOYCE. Sixteen years have passed since this worthy pioneer folded his hands in rest from the labors of life, but his name will be recalled by many as that of one of the first men coming to the vicinity of Danville and performing some of the earliest work in connection with his trade as a carpenter and joiner. He came with his parents to this county in 1831 and two years later established himself in the embryo town of Danville, which then consisted of only a few houses. With his young wife he took up his abode in the domicile which he built that year, which was weather-boarded in walnut and which is still standing and the property of his widow, who preserve it as a relic of the older days. Opposite it was built the engine house which now shelters the fire apparatus of a thriving and progressive modern city.

A native of New York State, Mr. Boyce was born in Schoharie County, Feb. 20, 1809. Thirteen months later his parents removed to Harrison County, Ohio, where the father entered a tract of land from the Government and where the family lived until 1831. Then pushing still further westward they came to this county and Henry G.

worked on a farm until 1832. That year he turned his attention more particularly to his trade of a carpenter and until his marriage the year following was in the employ of Mr. Beckwith and Gov. Leander Rutledge. His marriage with Miss Eliza Potter occurred on the 3d of March, 1833, the Rev. Freeman Smally officiating at the ceremony.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Boyce established themselves in a log cabin on what is now Walnut street and where their first child was born, Mary Jane, now Mrs. Henry Fulton of Vallejo, Cal. In the summer of 1833 Mr. Boyce went to Chicago when there were only two houses between Danville and that now great city. After the father, brother and brother-in-law of Mrs. Boyce arrived there, they dug the cellar for the first brick house ever built in Chicago, which was for a man named Chapman. Mr. Boyce did the carpenter work on said building. He remained there that fall in order to earn money to pay taxes and later returned to Danville purchased land lying along what is now Walbut street. He pursued his trade as a carpenter and finally became a contractor and builder, putting up many of the first buildings in the town. He thus labored until about 1850 and in 1856 was appointed Postmaster of Danville, prior to the election of President Buchanan. He served until the incoming of President Lincoln's administration and later was Deputy Postmaster under President Johnson.

Mr. Boyce was a man of more than ordinary abilities and occupied a leading position in his community. He was elected Justice of the Peace, serving four terms of four years each, holding this office at the time of his decease. He was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and warmly interested in the cause of temperance. Upright and honorable in his transactions he enjoyed the esteem and confidence of all who knew him and at his death, which occurred Dec. 3, 1873, was deeply mourned not only by his own family but by the entire community.

The father of our subject was Peter Boyce, a native of Washington County, N. Y., and a farmer by occupation. He was reared to manhood in his native State where he married Miss Jane Potter, and later removed to Schoharie County, N. Y. He was three times married and was the father of twenty-one children. In his father's family there were thirteen children and his mother died in Harrison County, Ohio. After coming to Illinois he lived here only a few years, then returning to Ohio settled near Springfield where he spent his last days. He was a man of considerable force of character and a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mrs. Eliza J. (Potter) Boyce was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., one half mile from Sackett's Harbor, Sept. 19, 1813, and is the daughter of Elijah and Lana Potter, the former of whom was born in Washington County, N. Y., Sept. 4, 1787. He was there reared upon a farm and was married to a maiden of his own township, Miss Lana Van Wormer, in 1810. Not long afterward the young people removed to a point near Sackett's Harbor, in Jefferson County. Mrs. Lana Potter was born June 2, 1793 and was consequently seventeen years of age at the time of her marriage.

The three eldest children of Mr. and Mrs. Potter were born in Jefferson County, N. Y., Eliza J. being the eldest. Six more children were added to the family after they left the Empire State. With one exception they all lived to mature years, one being killed when about four years old by the falling of a tree upon him. About 1820 the Potter family resolved to seek what was then the farther West and accordingly removed to Richland County, Ohio, settling near the present site of the town of Ashland. That region was then a wilderness, peopled chiefly by wild animals and Indians, there being only four other white families in the township. Mr. Potter entered a tract of land from the Government and the family endured all the hardships and privations of life on the frontier. The nearest mill was thirty miles away and the road which led to it was for long distances nothing more than an Indian trail.

As the country began settling up Mr. Potter distinguished himself as a leading citizen and was one of the first to exert himself in the establishment of a school which was effected after much difficulty, Mr. Potter riding three days to find a teacher who could even write. The family sojourned in that neighborhood for a period of seventeen years

and in 1830 concluded to make another change of residence, this time seeking the Prairie State. After due preparation they in October set out overland with a two-horse team and two cows, and their household goods and provisions. They were three weeks on the road, camping and cooking by the wayside. They arrived near the present site of Newtown, on Middle Fork Township, in November following. The father three or four years later, purchased land on the State road, at the edge of Eight Mile Prairie, ten miles north of Danville, where he opened up a good farm and lived until 1865. The death of the wife and mother occurred June 17, 1856. Eleven years later Mr. Potter removed to Missouri and subsequently made his home with his son, Joseph, who was located on a farm nine miles from Chillicothe.

Mrs. Lana (Van Wormer) Potter was the daughter of Jacob Van Wormer, one of the early pioneers of Washington County, N. Y., and a strict adherent of the doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His house for many years was the meeting place for the annual conference and was the frequent resort of the itinerant. Among the early preachers of that day was the renowned Lorenzo Dow, who made for himself a name intimately associated with the early history of Methodism. He and his wife finally removed to Jefferson County and made their home with Mrs. Potter, his youngest daughter. They intended going to Ohio with the Potter family, but on account of the mother's health they were obliged to remain in Jefferson County N. Y., where they spent their last days. The Van Wormer family traced its ancestry to Holland.

The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Boyce was William Potter one of the pioneers of Washington County, N. Y., who married Miss Elizabeth Sherman and settled near Fort Ann. They became the parents of nine sons and two daughters and eight of their sons lived to mature years. They remained residents of Fort Ann until quite aged, then went to live with their son, William, near Buffalo, where their decease took place.

To Mr. and Mrs. Boyce there were born four children, the eldest of whom, Mary J., has been already mentioned. The second daughter, Emily, is at home with her mother. Sarah M. died July 30, 1861; William during the late Civil War served three years as a Union soldier in Company A, 11th Indiana Infantry and was wounded at Champion Hill. At the expiration of his first term of enlistment he re-entered the ranks and at the battle of Winchester received a fatal shot and his remains now lie in Winchester burying ground. Mrs. Boyce and her daughter, Emily, are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Miss Emma is a well educated lady and has followed the profession of a teacher fifteen years in Danville.

Jacob Van Wormer served in the Revolutionary War, Elijah Potter served in the War of 1812 and Henry G. Boyce tendered his services in the Black Hawk War.

GEORGE CLARKSON. This gentleman upon coming to Vermilion County purchased 160 acres of land in Sidell Township which is now occupied by his widow, Mrs. Elvira Clarkson, a very capable and intelligent lady who enjoys the friendship and esteem of all who know her. Since the death of her husband she has released the estate from its indebtedness and managed it in a manner reflecting great credit upon her discretion and good judgment. Without making any pretentions to elegance, she lives simply, comfortably and modestly, and has a true and motherly heart, full of sympathy for all the wrongs and woes of mankind.

Mrs. Clarkson was born in Kentucky where she lived until a maiden of eighteen years and then her parents removed to Illinois. She was married in 1865, and settled with her husband on the farm which she now occupies. Mr. Clarkson had also been reared in Kentucky. Of their union there were born two sons and two daughters—Henry T., Jennie M., Allie V., and George J. The youngest was only two months old at the time of his father's death. Mrs. Clarkson has reason to be proud of her family, her sons and daughters being more than ordinarily bright and attractive, the daughters especially handsome.

Mrs. Clarkson after the death of her husband was forced to assume the responsibilities of the

Very Truly Yours

W. P. Pierce

farm and right nobly has she fulfilled the duties of her position and reared her children in a manner which shall make of them useful and respected members of the community. Mrs. Clarkson is an active member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in the northern part of Sidell Township and comprises in her life and character the faithful and devoted mother and the true woman. A sketch of her father, James Thompson, will be found on another page of this work. Mr. Clarkson died Sept. 3, 1877.

HON. WILLIAM P. PEIRCE, M. D., Mayor of Hoopeston, is also a practicing physician and surgeon and senior partner of the firm of Peirce & McCaughey, proprietors of the drug store on Main street. The various titles appended to his name have been justly earned and from them it will be readily guessed that he occupies no secondary position in his community.

Dr. Peirce was born in Chautauqua County, N.Y., March 25, 1830, and lived there until about 1852, completing his education in what was then Fredonia Academy, but is now the Fredonia State Normal School. Upon leaving school he commenced the study of medicine under the instruction of his father, Dr. Austin Peirce, beginning his readings at the age of eighteen years. Later he entered upon a course of lectures in the University of the City of New York, from which he was gradaated in the class of 1852.

In the fall of the year above mentioned young Peirce came to Illinois and began the practice of his chosen profession in Kendall County where he resided until the outbreak of the Civil War. In June, 1861, he raised a company of volunteers named Company D, and assigned to the 36th Illinois Infantry and of which he was elected Captain. After a year's faithful service in this capacity, he was appointed Surgeon to one of the new regiments, the 88th Illinois, with the rank of Major, and remained with it until the close of the war. He met the enemy in many important battles, being in the fight at Pea Ridge, Bentonville, Ark., Wilson's Creek, Mo., Shiloh, Tenn., and the siege of Corinth, at which places he was in command of his company. After receiving the appointment of Surgeon, he was at Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, in the Atlanta campaign, and at Nashville and Franklin, Tenn., besides many other important engagements. The greater part of the time he acted as Brigade Surgeon and discharged his duties in such a manner as to gain him the friendship of his subordinates and the approval of his superiors.

After the war was ended Dr. Peirce returned to Illinois and located in Lisbon, Kendall Co., Ill., and subsequently at Lemont, Cook County, where he followed his profession until 1880, when he took up his residence in Hoopeston and is now in the enjoyment of a lucrative business. He makes a specialty of surgery and has met with unqualified success. He soon afterward established his drug store and being a liberal and public spirited citizen, has always interested himself in the welfare and progress of his adopted town.

While a resident of Kendall County, Dr. Peirce was elected on the Republican ticket to represent his party in the 25th General Assembly and during the sessions which followed, served on the committee of State Charitable Institutions and Revenue. Later he was appointed a delegate from the Fifteenth District to the Constitutional Convention of 1870 at Springfield. In 1871 he was elected Senator from the district comprising Kendall, Grundy and Will counties, living at the time in Minooka, Grundy County, where he practiced until his removal to Cook County. During the Constitutional Convention he was on the committee of Federal Relations, Revenue and Judicial Districts, sometimes serving as Chairman. In the Senate he was Chairman of the Committee on State Charitable Institutions, Railroads, Penitentiary and Education. Wherever residing he has usually been a representative to district and State conventions, having always taken a lively interest in political affairs. He is a member of the County Medical Society and in Masonry is a Knight Templar.

In Cook County, this State, Dr. Peirce was married July 18, 1879, to Miss Ella Anderson. The four children born of this union were named respectively: William, James, Lamartine and John

Logan. They are all living and form a bright and interesting group, which the parents look upon with pardonable pride. Mrs. Peirce was born in Harrisburg, Pa., May 12, 1848, and is the daughter of James Anderson, who removed first to Cook County, Ill., and then to Kansas where he died in 1888.

Hon. Austin Peirce, the father of our subject, was a native of Vermont and born in 1799. When a young man he emigrated to Chenango County, N. Y., where he read medicine with Dr. Pitcher, of the town of Pitcher, and afterward took a course of instruction at Geneva. He commenced the practice of his profession at Hamlet, Chatauqua Co., N. Y., where he made his home for many years. His decease occurred in 1860, when he was sixty-one years old. The mother in her girlhood was Miss Mary Ann Sterling of Chenango County. The parental household included eleven children, eight of whom lived to mature years and five of whom are still living. The mother also survives and makes her home in Fredonia, N. Y. She was born in Connecticut in 1808 and came with her father, James Sterling, to Chenango County, N. Y., when quite young, living there until her marriage.

The elder Peirce during his younger years belonged to the old Whig party and about 1842 was a member of the New York Legislature. He was a man of decided views and attained to much prominence in his community, serving as Township Supervisor many years. In religious matters he belonged to the Presbyterian Church in which he officiated as Deacon for a long period. Dr. Peirce, our subject, is a member of the Universalist Church at Hoopeston.

A lithographic portrait of Dr. Peirce appears elsewhere in this volume in connection with this brief outline of his life.

HENRY L. CHACE. The farming lands of Vermilion County comprise its most valuable property, and the men who have redeemed them from their primitive condition occupy no unimportant position among a vast and intelligent population. The subject of this notice may be properly classed among these, as he turns in annually a handsome sum to the county treasury as taxes on the property which he has accumulated, largely by the labor of his own hands. He is a land owner to the extent of a fine farm of 440 acres, with the residence, on section 5, township 23, range 12, which, together with its buildings and improvements, forms one of the most desirable estates in this part of Vermilion County.

The native place of our subject was Newport, R. I., where he first opened his eyes to the light March 7, 1843. There he spent his boyhood and youth, completing his education in the High School. This brought him up to the time of the Civil War. On the 13th day of October, 1862, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company D, 12th Rhode Island Infantry, in which he first served a short time as a private, and later received the rank of Sergeant. His regiment was made a part of the First Brigade, Second Division, 9th Army Corps, and operated mostly with the Army of the Potomac. He participated in the battle of Fredericksburg, and was under Gen. Burnside in his skirmishes through Kentucky. He left the regular ranks in August, 1863, and was assigned to the Quartermaster's department, and given charge of two large pontoon trains, numbers 15 and 17, Army of the James, and was mostly stationed at City Point until the fall of 1865, when he assisted in the reconstruction of the burned bridge at Richmond after the surrender of Lee's army, when he was mustered out and returned home.

Our subject for a year after leaving the army engaged in business in his native town, and in the meantime was married, March 26, 1866, to Miss Anna E. Cogswell. Soon afterwards they removed to Kendall County, this State, where he engaged in farming two years, then moved to the vicinity of Seneca, LaSalle County, where he sojourned for a period of eight years. His next removal, in 1877, was to the farm which he now owns and occupies. Upon this he has effected many improvements, gathering around him all the conveniences and appliances of the enterprising and progressive agriculturist. He votes the straight Republican ticket, and has held the various minor offices of his township. As an ex-soldier he belongs to the G. A. R.,

and finds his religious home in the Universalist Church.

Henry Chace, the father of our subject, was likewise a native of Newport, R. I., where he was born in 1812. The paternal grandfather was Capt. James Chace, who followed the sea for many years, but finally settled on *terra firma* in Newport, and there spent his last days. There was a large representation of the Chace family in that city, where they were familiarly known for several generations, and traced their ancestors to the Puritans. Henry Chace in early manhood was married to Miss Mary Lyon, and for a time was engaged as a merchant in Georgetown, S. C. The wife of our subject was also a native of Newport. She was the daughter of Aaron S. Cogswell, of Revolutionary fame, who was the representative of an old and honorable family, which furnished a number of successful business men to the commercial interests of that time.

WILLIAM BANDY. In taking this intelligent old gentleman by the hand, we extend greeting to the oldest living resident of Danville. He is now approaching the seventy-seventh year of his age, having been born July 22, 1812, in Bedford County, Va. When a youth of sixteen years, he was brought by his foster-parents, Samuel and Elizabeth Howell, to this county, they arriving at the present site of Danville, Dec. 13, 1828. There were then not to exceed nine families in the town. Some men go abroad to look upon great and wonderful things, but Mr. Bandy has seen enough at home to satisfy the ordinary individual in the almost incredible change which has come over the Prairie State since his arrival within its limits.

Upon leaving the Old Dominion, the little caravan of which our subject was a member, having amid much preparation and speculation bidden their friends adieu, set out with a four-horse team, the wagon loaded with household effects and provisions, and traveled for thirty-six days before reaching their destination. They made their bed in their wagon at night, and set their table by the wayside, traveling in the primitive fashion of those days, before the time of railroads, or even stages in this region.

Upon their arrival here the emigrants could not even rent a cabin, but finally succeeded in finding shelter in a log house which already contained two families of four persons each, and which was sixteen feet square, and stood upon the present site of the First National Bank. Thus they spent the winter, being able to do but little except to make preparations for the spring campaign. The nearest land office was at Palestine, ninety miles away, and the father, after making the journey thither, was not able to purchase, as the officer in charge refused to accept the Virginia money, which was the only currency Mr. Howell possessed. Finally, however, he bridged over his difficulties, and succeeded in entering 480 acres of land, upon which he erected four cabins, the principal one of which was located one mile southeast of the court house and constructed of rough logs, with a puncheon floor, two windows and a door, using greased paper instead of glass. The building was 16x18 feet square, and boasted of window shutters of rived boards. For the fireplace there was was made in the logs an aperture eight feet wide, and built out three feet back, and this was lined with earth, while the chimney was built outside six feet high and covered with mortar. This contrivance lasted for years, and furnished sufficient heat for cooking purposes, as well as warming the building.

The furniture in this humble domicile was likewise home-made, the bedstead being riven boards set up on wooden legs, and upon it there was first placed a straw tick, and then a feather tick. The table was constructed in a similar manner, only made higher. The family had brought with them two chairs, which were given to the father and mother, while the boys had to make stools to sit upon. The groceries and provisions had to be transported fifty miles from Terre Haute, and as may be supposed, at times the family were placed upon short rations in this line, although wild game being plenty, they never lacked for meats, and in a few years there was a surplus of cattle and swine.

After the cabin was built, the Bandy family had to carry water 300 yards until a well was dug.

The father and sons made a contract to get out 10,000 black walnut rails at 25 cents per 100, and in the meantime carried on as rapidly as possible the cultivation of the new farm. William, our subject, assisted in breaking the first timber land in this region, and harvested some of the finest corn ever raised. There was, however, no market for it, and he was obliged to feed it to his hogs, and sell the pork for from $1 to $1.50 per 100. A day's work was equal to ten or twelve pounds of salt pork, or eight bushels of corn, or from thirty-seven and a half to fifty cents in cash, and the latter price could only be commanded by extra good men.

In this way were passed the first few years of the life of our subject in this county. He attended the first school taught in his township, and remained a member of the parental household until 1831. About that time he engaged with the State Militia in the Black Hawk War, under Capt. J. Palmer and Col. I. R. Moore. They went first to Joliet and built a fort. Two or three of their comrades were killed by the Indians. Thence they proceeded to Ottawa, and subsequently our subject joined the United States Mounted Rangers, which comprised six companies. At Rock Island many were stricken down with cholera. After operating around Galena and Prairie-du-Chien, they finally returned and wintered southeast of Danville until January, when they were ordered to the other side of the Illinois River, but there being no need of their services in that region, they came back to the old camp, and remained until the 1st of May. They remained ready for duty and reconnoitering in different sections until the fall of that year, when they were discharged.

Mr. Bandy now, in company with Mr. Howell, commenced operating as a carpenter, and put up a house on what was called Sulphur Spring Place, about one mile southeast of the present courthouse. In the spring of 1834 they built a flat boat, 75x16 feet in dimensions, and upon this loaded great quantities of pork, which Mr. Bandy had purchased for the purpose of transporting to New Orleans. The craft was propelled by hand power, and when arriving at the Crescent City, the "traveling salesman" was confronted by a cholera epidemic, and sold only enough to pay expenses, putting the balance of his property into the hands of commission men. He then returned home and awaited results. One morning, two years later, going to the post-office soon after the blowing of the horn by the carrier on horseback, he received a letter, stating that all his pork had been sold, but at very little profit, and the proceeds were sent him in a draft on a bank in Louisville, Ky.

Mr. Bandy finally succeeded in getting his money, and after building another boat, proceeded as before, and carried on this business for several years, conveying wheat and pork to New Orleans, and building a new boat each year. He was the first man to run a boat down the Mississippi River, and about 1839 or 1840 abandoned the river until after the close of the Mexican War. He then secured a sub-contract to deliver horses in New Orleans, and by this time could transport by steamboat. The business proved quite profitable until the last trip, when he got as far as St. Louis, and found that the war was ended, and he was left with fifty horses on his hands. He finally traded them for a lot of worn-out Santa Fe horses, getting $17 a piece for his own to boot, and reserving two of his best animals. He returned home with the poor horses, fed them up, and sold them to the Illinois Canal Company, receiving therefor good prices. Later Mr. Bandy furnished a large proportion of the packet horses of this company, and in the meantime had carried on general merchandising in company with his father-in-law, William Murphy, they operating together five or six years. Later he engaged in the hardware trade and conducted the largest business of this kind in the county for a number of years. Finally selling out for a large lot of Wisconsin lands, he began dealing in real estate, and was at one time the owner of 1,500 acres. Mr. Bandy sold considerable of this land afterwards, but he and his wife own together 1,600 acres at the present time.

In addition to his other enterprises, Mr. Bandy put up a large number of business houses and residences, and during the last years of his active life confined himself largely to the business of real estate dealer and capitalist. About 1882 he retired, and for the last eight years has made his

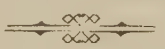
home in Danville. His first residence was on North street, where he had a half acre of ground, and effected some fine improvements. In 1836 he was appointed by the Legislature as one of the commissioners to make the slack water of the Vermilion River, but did not see it practical. Later he was appointed Marshal of the Eastern District of Illinois, with a bond of $40,000, but there being nothing particularly desirable in the office, he withdrew.

Mr. Bandy has represented his township in the County Board of Supervisors two terms; he has served as President of the City Council, and also as Alderman. He voted with the Republican party until the administration of President Lincoln, and has since been a Democrat. His whole career has been signalized by liberality and public-spiritedness, he having probably contributed as much as any other man in furthering the interests of Danville and vicinity. A goodly portion of his capital is now invested in the live-stock business, which yields him handsome returns.

The marriage of William Bandy and Miss Harriet J. Murphy occurred at the home of the bride in Edgar County, Ill., Oct. 16, 1833. Of this union there were born five sons and two daughters, and six of the children are living. Samuel J., the eldest, is a resident of Danville; John W. is the owner of the Bandy block, and is in the drug business; Bennett E. is the School Commissioner of the township, and interested in the Building Association; Emma, the youngest born, remains at home with her parents, and there is also in the household circle a foster child named Bella E. Bandy. Mrs. Harriet Bandy departed this life March, 1872. She was born in Bedford County, Va., and came with her parents to this county in 1818, about the time that Illinois was transformed from a Territory into a State.

Mr. Bandy, in 1881, contracted a second marriage with Mrs. Deborah (King) Johnson. This lady was born in Kentucky, Oct. 13, 1815, and when quite young was taken by her parents to Indiana, they settling on the western line of the State, just across from Danville. She spent the greater part of her early life in Warren County, Ind, where she was married to Mr. Johnson, who died near West Lebanon, Ind., in 1853. Joseph King, the father of Mrs. Bandy, was a native of Virginia, and a farmer by occupation. He spent his last years in Missouri.

The father of our subject was James Bandy, who was born in Virginia about 1790, and upon reaching man's estate was married to Miss Nancy Brown, also of the Old Dominion. Only two of their children lived, and the mother died, when William, our subject, was an infant of three years. A few years later he was taken into the home of the Howells. James Bandy finally removed to Tennessee to take care of his father. He was married a second time, and came to the southern part of Illinois, where he died in 1883, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. He came to Virginia after his children, both of whom were with the Howells, but the latter were unwilling to give them up. He became the owner of lands and slaves, which he gave to his children.



WILLIAM O. CUNNINGHAM, an extensive stock shipper of Newell Township was born on the 15th day of December, 1838, in this township, and is the son of James and Mary (Andrews) Cunningham, the father a native of Kentucky. The mother of the subject of this sketch was born in New York, and is deceased. The father is now retired and living at State Line, Ind.

William O., of whom we write, is the third child of a family of four children. He spent his boyhood days at home on the farm until he was about eighteen years of age when the restless spirit of the typical American youth seized him and he concluded to see more of the world; accordingly he went to Nebraska where he worked for a time breaking prairie sod, but this being too slow work for him he made up his mind that he would go to California, which he did. He started from Nebraska City for Pike's Peak in 1859, and from there went overland to California. Here he was engaged in mining and farming alternately, and worked with some degree of success in this manner for about four years, when he returned to Nebraska where he worked for a short time and then came

back to Illinois with $1.200 in his pocket, every cent of which was gained by reason of his industrious and prudent habits. He invested his money in land, buying his father's farm of 200 acres which was really the nucleus of his present fortune. He then married Feb. 22, 1865, Martha J. Chandler; she is the daughter of James and Elizabeth (Frazier) Chandler, who both died in one week from milk sickness, also two children; at that time Mrs. Cunningham was only five years old. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham became the parents of nine children, of whom seven are living, viz; Irwin, Alice, James, Porter, Sophia, Minnie and Roy. St lla, the oldest child, died in infancy, and a baby boy died unnamed, and the balance are at home. Mr. Cunningham is giving his children the benefit of a good education.

Mr. Cunningham is the owner of a large farm of 556 acres of as good land as there is in Illinois, estimated to be worth at least $70 per acre. His residence and buildings are models of convenience and of these he ought to feel proud. He has displayed a great deal of common sense in all of the improvements he has made and in none more than in the erection of his buildings. Mr. Cunningham makes a specialty of Cotswold and Shropshiredown sheep, of which he always keeps a large flock. He is also engaged in buying and shipping live stock to Chicago, a business which he has prosecuted with success, all due to his shrewd judgment as a buyer. He supplements his other business by dealings in superior grades of fine horses, and it is said that he is a most excellent judge of this noble animal.

Politically, Mr. Cunningham believes that the party that obliterated slavery from the American continent is right, and he therefore votes and works for the Republican party and never omits an opportunity to forward its success. He has never been an active aspirant for political honors, but by reason of his superior judgment has held the office of Assessor of this township. While he was living in California he made an endeavor to enlist during the War of the Rebellion, his motives being based wholly upon the love he bore his country. But being disabled he was refused admission to the ranks of the Union army, though he was always in hearty and active sympathy with the objects for which it fought. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham are active members of the Christian Church and are always alive to any move that will uplift humanity and make life happier.

IRA FAUROT. This venerable gentleman was long intimately connected with the agricultural interests of Vermilion County, and is still the possessor of one of its many valuable farms, finely located in the midst of a rich farming region on section 34, Pilot Township. When he purchased this farm it was wild, uncultivated land with no buildings on it, and but one dwelling house in sight, the country roundabout still being not far removed from its primitive condition and sparsely settled. It is a fact of which he may well be proud that our subject has witnessed the greater part of its development, and has aided its growth as only a skillful, practical farmer can do. He is now living here in retirement in his comfortable home, having accumulated a competency sufficient to guard his old age against want in any form.

The ancestors of our subject were natives of sunny France as is betokened by his name, and from them he inherited those genial and pleasing traits of character that have gained him a warm place in the hearts of those about him, and also the thrifty and industrious habits that have led him to prosperity. His parents, Joseph and Sarah (Sears) Faurot, were of French ancestry, but were natives of this country. They at one time made their home in Ontario County, N. Y., whence they came to Illinois, and located in Champaign County, Ohio. They afterward turned their steps, and going to Steuben County, Ind., made their home there till death claimed them, the father dying in 1836, and the mother in 1839. They were the parents of five children, of whom two are living: Jane is the widow of David Porter, of Kentucky, and she is now living in Missouri with her three children; Benjamin, deceased, married Louisa Avey, of New York, and they had two children, Elmira and Harriet; Alva, deceased, was a farmer; he married Louisa Farmer, of Ohio, and they had

three children—William H., Alva and Farmer; Henry, deceased, married Maria Wolf, of Ohio, and she is now living in Missouri with her four children—Sylvester, Theodore, Melvin and Mary.

Our subject was born in Ontario County, N. Y., April 23, 1819, and he accompanied his parents to Champaign County, Ohio, when he was young. At the age of fifteen a hardy, self-reliant youth, manly beyond his years, he left the shelter of the parental roof to go forth into the world to fight life's battles on his own account, and for some years was engaged in working by the month. After marriage he commenced to rent land, but always with the end in view of owning land himself as soon as his means would allow. By frugality and hard labor, at the expiration of three years, he had money enough to buy sixty acres of timbered land, and he lived on it the next nine years, busily engaged in its clearance and improvement. In 1850 he sold it, and going to Marion County, in this State, he resided there the ensuing four years. Returning to this county he invested some of his money in 200 acres of wild land, from which he has developed his present fine farm, on which he has erected suitable, well-appointed buildings, and has every convenience for carrying on agriculture to the best advantage.

To the wife who has shared his fortunes and been an important factor in bringing about his prosperity, Mr. Faurot was united in marriage July 2, 1840. Her maiden name was Elvira Fowler, and she is a daughter of Willey and Cynthia (Perkins) Fowler, natives respectively of London, England, and Germany. They came to this country and spent their last days here. The following is the record of the five children born to our subject and his wife: Hannah was born June 30, 1841; Cynthia, Feb. 19, 1843; Sarah, Feb. 15, 1846; Victoria, Aug. 21, 1849, died Oct. 10, 1851; Willie, born Sept. 11, 1852; Joseph, Jan. 18, 1858. Hannah married John Davidson, of Ohio, now living in this county, and they have five children—Arabella, Ira, Zeruah and two dead; Cynthia married Hugh V. Davidson, of Marion County, Ohio, now living in this county, and they have four children—Ella, Josephine, James and Estella; Sarah has been twice married. Her first husband was Aaron Davis, of Shelby County, Ill., and they had four children—Olive, Seigel, Effie and Leona. Her present husband is Alexander Steward, of Champaign County, Ill., and they have four children—Lizzie, Alvina, Jessie and James O.; Willie married Annie Ay, of Douglas County, Ill., and they are living in this county; they have three children—Ira, Elsie and Florence; Joseph, a retired farmer living in Armstrong, married Flora Thompson, and they have one child, Amy.

Mr. Faurot is a thoroughly good and upright man, who is well thought of by the entire community. His life-record shows that he is a man of good capacity and sound discretion, always cordial and kindly in his relations with others and fair in his dealings with them. As consistent members of the Christian Church, he and his wife and children exert a good influence in the township, or wherever they may be. Politically, Mr. Faurot is a decided Republican, and gives his party the benefit of his hearty support.

JOSEPH J. SIDELL. The son of the founder of the village of Sidell, naturally occupies no secondary position among the people, not only of the village but the township at large. The late Hon. John Sidell, after whom the township was named, was long recognized as one of the leading men of Vermilion County, and possessed those talents, both natural and required, which distinguished him as a character more than ordinarily forcible and efficient, and one who had a sensible and permanent influence on the community where he was so favorably known for so many years.

The father of our subject was born at Hagerstown, Washington Co., Md., June 27, 1816, and his early life was spent in Maryland and Ohio. His father having died when he was a lad of eight years the boy was thrown largely upon his own resources, but he seemed to have within him the elements of success, and those years which were fraught with perhaps hardship and privation sufficed to develop a character of more than ordinary excellence. At the age of nineteen years, being

dissatisfied with his condition and his prospects in his native state, he emigrated to Ohio and engaged to work out by the month in Greene County on a farm at $12.50 per month.

Saving what he could of his earnings young Sidell in due time purchased a horse and mounting it started for the farther West. He crossed Illinois and visited Iowa, but finding nothing particularly desirable returned to Ohio and took a contract to cut cordwood at thirty-three and one-third cents per cord. This was extremely hard work for such small pay, but he persevered at it until he was able to do something better. While a resident of Ohio he was married Jan. 20, 1846, to Miss Elizabeth Cline, who became the mother of two children and died in 1854. He was then married to Miss Ada B. Ransom, who also died after a comparatively short period of married life.

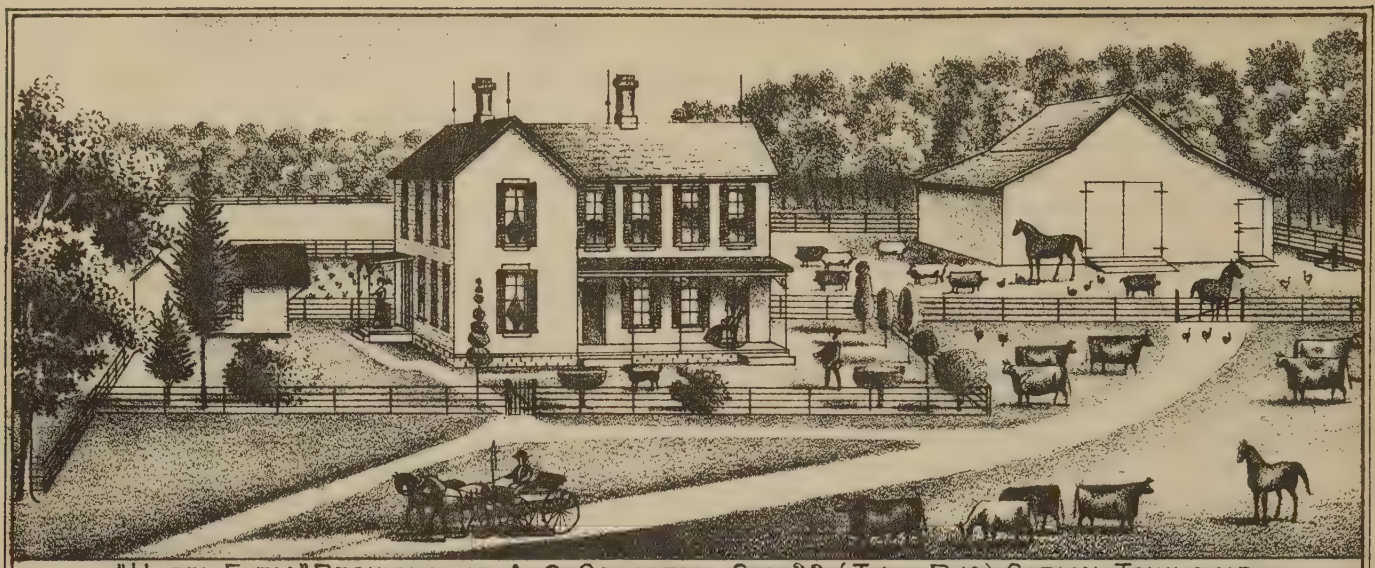
Mr. Sidell came to the county in 1860, and for the first few years occupied himself in agricultural pursuits. Later he drifted into stock-raising and became one of the leading men in this industry in Vermilion County. His eldest son, George A., started West at the age of nineteen years and prospected for gold in and around Fair Play, South Park, Col. He was one of the first men to discover silver at Leadville, and was founder of the town. He became owner of the celebrated Beaver Creek Silver Mine, eight or ten miles southwest, and continues his residence there. Allie E., the daughter of his first wife, married Mr. C. C. Tincher, who is well known in the financial circles of Danville.

Mrs. Ada B. (Ransom) Sidell, mother of the subject of this sketch, was born in the city of Toronto, Canada, and being left an orphan when quite young, was reared to womanhood by an excellent family who gave her a good education. She left the Dominion when a young lady, and going to Greene County, Ohio, engaged in teaching, and formed the acquaintance of her future husband. There were born to them two children. Mr. Sidell in coming to Illinois settled near Paris in Edgar County, and having some means engaged at once extensively in the cattle trade. He had learned carpentering early in life. Before locating, however, he traveled extensively on horseback in the West, crossing Illinois nine times and through portions of Texas and Iowa. He was in the Lone Star State before its admission into the Union. It will be remembered that Samuel Houston was chief sovereign of that country at that time, and John Sidell erected a residence for him at Houston.

The live stock enterprise of Mr. Sidell prospered very well, and not finding a sufficient area of land to suit his purpose in Edgar County he came to this county where in due time he became the owner of 7,000 acres. Upon becoming a voter he had identified himself with the Old Whig party, but upon its abandonment allied himself with the Republicans. He interested himself greatly in political affairs, and was elected a representative to the Lower House of the Legislature, in which position he acquitted himself in a manner reflecting great credit upon his good judgment and honesty. He was instrumental in defining and improving the road laws of Illinois, and was an influential member of the General Assembly, participating in most of its important deliberations. In later years he gradually retired from public life.

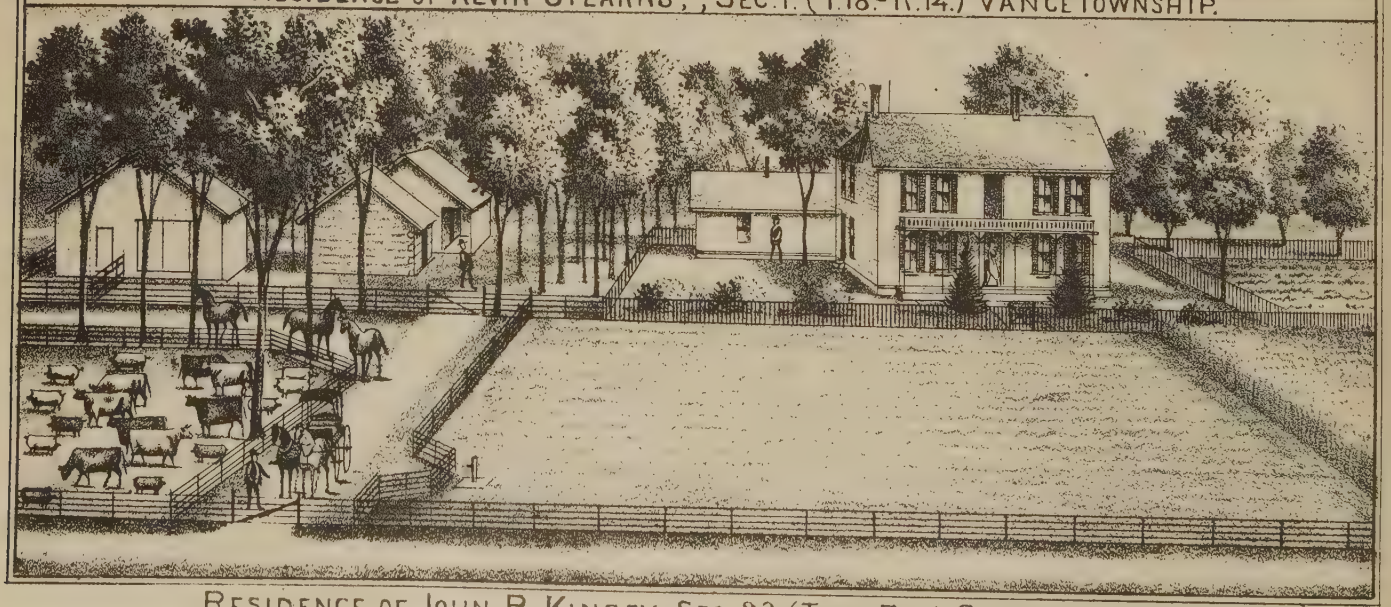
At the suggestion of Mr. John C. Short, one of the earliest settlers of Sidell Township, it was given its present name. Mr. Sidell was very liberal and public spirited and cheerfully gave of his time and means to encourage the enterprises calculated for the general good. Several years ago he decided to open a portion of his lands to settlers who would locate and make homes for themselves, and thus disposed of a large tract at a very reasonable price, realizing from the sales the sum of $115,000. At the same time he retained a large portion of land himself and was instrumental in bringing the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad to this section, freely donating the right of way. The town of Archie had been laid out and was booming before Sidell had an existence, but finally was practically absorbed by the superior advantages offered by the founder of Sidell as a business point, and consequently enterprising men invested their capital here.

Mr. Sidell at one time chartered a train and ran it free from Columbus, Ohio, for the benefit of those desiring to make a home in the West. Sidell was laid out in 1884, and its illustrious founder



"HAZEL FARM." RESIDENCE OF A. G. OLMSTED, SEC. 22. (T. 19. - R. 12.) CATLIN TOWNSHIP.

RESIDENCE OF ALVIN STEARNS, , SEC. 1. (T. 18. - R. 14.) VANCE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN R. KINSEY, SEC. 23. (T. 19. - R. 13.) OAKWOOD TOWNSHIP.

lived to note its phenomenal growth and prosperity. He departed this life Jan. 29, 1889, after a severe illness of eleven weeks. Although not a member of any church he donated generously toward the erection of the various church edifices in this region, giving to the Kimber Methodist Episcopal Church alone $500, this structure being located in Danville. He had identified himself with the Masons some years before his decease and was buried with the honors of the fraternity.

To Mr. Sidell and his second wife there were born three children, Jennie H., Joseph John and Luella Blanche. The eldest daughter is now the wife of William Southwick, a clothier of Streeter, Ill.; Luella married Frank Hastings, an extensive cattle breeder, and they live in Essex, Page Co., Iowa; Mr. Hastings makes a specialty of three different breeds of cattle, the West Highland Scotch — the first ever bred in America — the Hereford and the Short-horn.

The subject of this sketch was born March 14, 1862, at Dudley, Edgar Co., Ill., and the scenes of his first recollections were in connection with the first cattle ranch of his father near that place. He began at an early age to assist his father in looking after the cattle, and mounted on his broncho scoured the country for many a mile in the fall enjoyment of boyish youth and strength. He attended the schools of his home district. While a boy of seven he went in charge of a train load of cattle from Farimount, Ill., to Buffalo, N.Y. In case one of the bovines sought repose by lying down at the risk of being trampled to death, he exerted himself to keep it in a standing position, and if not able to do this alone would solicit the assistance of a brakeman.

When a youth of seventeen our subject entered the Russell Preparatory School for Yale College, but he was Western in his mode of thinking and in his habits and manners, and an utter stranger to the mode of living of the light-headed Eastern students, so he abandoned his first intention of entering Yale, and returning home continued with his father in the cattle business. He is now revolving in his mind the plan of embarking extensively in this in the near future farther west, probably in Nebraska, but will make his home at the old place, which is beautifully situated 240 rods northwest of Sidell.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Maude C., daughter of Michael Fisher, of Indianola, took place at the bride's home in 1884. Mr. Fisher is a hardware merchant and one of the leading men of his town. A sketch of him will be found elsewhere in this ALBUM. Mrs. Sidell was born at Indianola, where she completed her studies, being graduated from the High School. Of her union with our subject there are two children: Rozalia and Zelda Luella. Mrs. Sidell belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject, like his father before him, is Republican in politics and belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Vermilion Lodge, No. 265, of Indianola. He is endeavoring to comply with his father's wish of having a Masonic lodge established in Sidell, and is a charter member of the M. W. C. at this place. He is a young man of sterling worth and very popular both in business and social circles.

ELDER GEORGE W. DODSON, a prominent and influential citizen of Blount Township, is the owner of a farm on section 16, which in regard to cultivation and neat, well-appointed buildings is indeed one of the best in this part of Vermilion County. The Elder is one of the leading members of the Regular Baptist Church, and for a number of years has preached almost constantly in this and Champaign County, and as a man of true piety is an acknowledged power for good wherever he may be. He is also closely connected with the management of local public affairs, and has been an incumbent of some of the most responsible civic offices. He has held the position of Supervisor of Blount Township three terms, has served as Road Commissioner the same length of time and has been School Director many years. He has not taken an active part in political affairs, but is a decided Democrat in his views.

The subject of this biographical review was born in the vicinity of Hendricks, in Boone County, Ind., Aug. 1, 1839, being the eldest son and fifth child of the six children, four daughters and two

sons, born to Ruel and Mary (Dickerson) Dodson, natives, respectively, of Kentucky and Virginia. His parents married and settled in Boone County and lived there till February, 1848, when they came to Vermilion County and cast in their lot with the pioneers of Blount Township, settling about a mile northeast of Higginsville. They lived there only three or four years, however, when the father sold that farm and bought another that he considered more desirable, pleasantly located in the Fairchild settlement in Blount Township. There the mother died Aug. 8, 1860, and the father took for his second wife Lucinda Walls, who survives him. He died at Rickart's Corner in Blount Township, Feb. 28, 1871, thus rounding out a life that was a credit to himself, his friends and his community.

His son George, of whom we write, was between eight and nine years old when his parents brought him to their new home in Vermilion County, and he grew to man's estate in Blount Township, his parents training him in all useful labors and carefully instilling into his mind those high and holy principles that have been his guides in all his after life. He attended the common schools, and being an apt pupil gained a good practical education. He has always paid attention to the calling to which he was bred, and there is no more skillful or shrewd farmer in the neighborhood than he, as is shown by the appearance of his farm of 350 acres of well tilled land, with its comfortable dwelling, fine conveniently arranged barn and other substantial buildings, among the best in the township.

Elder Dodson has been twice married. The first time in Blount Township, to Miss Sarah A. Walls, who was born in Hendricks County, Ind., July 29, 1842. She was a member of the Regular Baptist Church and a truly good and virtuous woman, whose death Aug. 8, 1867, was deplored far beyond the home circle. She bore her husband three children: Annie M., the wife of William O'Toole; John W., who married Eva K. Fairchild; George W., who married Lillie Parks.

Our subject was married to his present wife March 12, 1868, and in her he has found a cheerful and ready helper, and an able manager in her department, she making their home cosy and comfortable for the family and attractive to others, who often share its generous hospitalities. Mrs. Dodson's maiden name was Dorcas T. Pilkington, and she was born in Hamilton County, Ind., Dec. 10, 1846. Her marriage with our subject has been blessed by the birth of eleven children, as follows: Sarah L., who died when about two years old; Carrie E.; Ruel F., who died when six months old; Ira W. W., Dora E., who died at the age of nine months; James F., Jesse R., Effie L., Bertha W., who died when one year old; Lillie M. and Bessie Orella.

In all his useful and honorable career the Elder has been guided by the highest moral sentiments, and has ever shown himself to be a just, kind-hearted, pure-souled man, one in whom his fellowmen can safely place their trust, and whose sagacity and wisdom eminently fit him for the part of counsellor. He has been identified with the Regular Baptist Church for many years, has filled the office of Deacon, and was ordained Elder in the church Nov. 28, 1874, since which time he has preached regularly in this and Champaign County, as before mentioned, with great acceptance to his hearers. His ministry has been very successful and much good has resulted from it. He has brought joy to many hearts, has soothed and comforted many in grief, and many have turned from the error of their ways, persuaded to do thus by his simple, earnest words of warning, and by the example of a godly, upright life.

ISAAC CURRENT comes of sterling pioneer stock, his immediate ancestry on both sides of the house having been early settlers of Vermilion County, who figured honorably in the history of its settlement. He is a fine representative of the native born citizens who are sustaining and extending the large agricultural interests of this fair land of their birth, and the farm that he owns and is successfully managing in Danville Township compares very favorably with the best in this vicinity in point of cultivation, neat and substantial buildings and well ordered appearance, and its fertile acres yield him an ample income.

Mr. Current was born in Newell Township, Ver-

milion County, Nov. 17, 1845. He is a descendant of Virginia families, both his parents and their parents having been born in the Old Dominion, his father, William Current, April 20, 1803, and his mother, Mary Baston, Oct. 19, 1807. The paternal grandfather of subject was a farmer in Harrison County, Va., but he finally disposed of his property in that State, and coming to Vermilion County in 1827, with his family, was one of the earliest settlers in what is now known as Newell Township. He entered a tract of Government land and was a resident in that township till death called him hence, though he did not die on that farm, but on the old homestead of his father, which he had entered; after the death of his father he buying that farm of the other heirs. The father of our subject was reared in his native State, and there married Miss Mary, daughter of Henry Baston. Her father was a resident of Harrison County in his native Virginia till 1827, when he came with others to Vermilion County, and entered a tract of land and improved a farm in what is now Danville Township, and lived here many years. He had learned the trade of a hatter in his youth; and after he came here found it very profitable to work at it a part of the time, his hats finding a ready sale. From this place Mr. Baston moved to Iowa in 1848 and became a pioneer of Marion County. A few years later he came back to Illinois and made his home with his children for a time, and then returned to the Hawk Eye State and resided there till his demise at the advanced age of ninety-eight years. His wife lived to be about the same age. They were the parents of fourteen children, ten of whom grew to maturity and married.

The father of our subject continued to live in Harrison County till 1827, but early that year he left the State of his nativity accompanied by his wife, his parents and her parents, bound for the then far West, and made the entire journey with ox teams. He settled in Newell Township and entered the tract of Government land that is now owned and occupied by his eldest son. It was wild prairie at the time, with no improvements whatever, and he had to erect a rude pole house for temporary shelter, and in that the family resided a year. It was then burned with all its contents, and a more substantial log house was put up in its place, and in that humble abode the most of his children were born. When he first went onto this land he did not have money enough to pay for it and held it as a claim till he could earn money enough breaking prairie for others, to buy it. He had learned the trade of wagon-maker before coming here, and he built a shop on his place and devoted part of his time to making wagons. When he had three or four wagons made he would yoke his oxen and start for Chicago to sell them, and at the same time his wife, who was a thrifty, economical housekeeper, would send the eggs and butter that she had saved, to market. There were no railways for years after he settled here, and deer and other kinds of wild game were plentiful and often troublesome in the wheat fields of the pioneers, and where the flourishing city of Danville stands there was then no village. Mr. Current closed a life that had been a useful one and an honor to his community, on his old homestead Aug. 6, 1851, dying while yet in his prime. His wife died in October, 1885.

Isaac Current of this sketch was reared and educated in this, his native county. He was but six years old when his father died, and he continued with his mother till his marriage. He then established himself on a part of the homestead, and two years later bought his present farm, where he has built up one of the most attractive homes in the township.

Mr. Current has been three times married. Clarissa E. Lynch, to whom he was wedded Dec. 14, 1862, was his first wife. She was born in Danville Township in 1843, and died here June 14, 1869, leaving one child, Rachel H. She is now the wife of Isaac Bowman of Vance Township, and they have one child named William Isaac. Mr. Current's second marriage was to Mary (Campbell) Wyatt, their union taking place Oct. 28, 1869. She was born in Newell Township Aug. 1, 1845, and died June 21, 1872.

Mr. Current's marriage with his present wife, Mrs. Derotha (Jones) Noel, took place Jan. 26, 1883. Her first husband was Arthur Noel by whom she had one son, Shelby P. Noel—he married Hannah Lappin, they have three children, viz: Percy

Leo, Loda Belle, and Arthur Raymond. She was born in Rockville, Park Co., Ind., Jan. 13, 1845. Her father, Cornelius Jones was born in Virginia, and when a young man went to Park County, Ind., and there married Nancy Hull, a native of Ohio. He lived in Park County till 1881, and then came to Illinois and made his home with a son in Douglas County till his decease in March, 1885. His wife died May 10, 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Current have one son, Charles R.

It may well be the pride of our subject that it has been his privilege not only to witness the wonderful progress of his native county since his birth, but that he has had a share in advancing its material prosperity and making it a great agricultural centre. He has accumulated a valuable property by the exercise of those faculties that mark him as a man of more than usual sagacity, far reaching forethought, and practical tenacity of purpose. Underlying all these traits are those high principles that have gained him the trust and respect of his fellow-citizens. Both he and his wife are active members of the Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church, as is also their son. In politics, on National issues he sides with the Democrats, but in local affairs the best man for the office gets his vote without regard to his party affiliations.

JOHN J. SOUTHWORTH is one of the young leading and progressive business men of one of the most promising villages in Vermilion County, Allerton. The town lies on the line which divides Vermilion from Champaign County, and was laid out in 1887. The depot was built the same fall and located on lands given to that purpose by Sam W. Allerton, of Chicago.

Mr. Southworth was the first business man who located at the town of Allerton. Before coming here he was engaged in the town of Archie in the lumber business. In 1887 he took charge of Allerton's steam elevator, removing his lumber yard here at the same time, and on July 20, 1887, he bought the first load of grain purchased in Allerton, a load of corn, from Thomas L. Miller, of Champaign County. The price paid was forty cents a bushel. As soon as the railroad was completed to his town he added to his stock of lumber, salt, binding twine, sand and barbed wire. Mr. Southworth is a son of John R. and Anna (Akers) Southworth, the nativity of the former being at Thomaston, Mass., while the latter was born in Harrisburg, Pa.

John R. Southworth was reared as a mechanic, working in the woolen mills at Lowell, Mass., but in 1854, thinking the broad prairies of the West were more conducive to happiness than the cramped shops of the East, he came to Champaign County, Ill., eventually. His first removal west was to Ohio, where he was married. As a farmer of Illinois he was fairly prosperous, and was prominently identified with the progress of his neighborhood. He died on his farm at the age of seventy-four years, while his wife still lives there. The maternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch died while Mrs. Southworth was quite young. They were natives of England, as were also the paternal grandparents. The great-grandfather, Roy Southworth, served with distinguished honor through the entire period of the Revolutionary War, and his descendants are in possession of a cane, the head of which is composed of solid silver in the shape of a dog's head, and inscribed thereon are the words, "Southworth, 1776." The silver was taken from the hilt of a British sword, which he captured from the enemy. Our subject's parents had six children: Addie, Julia, Frank, Lehmond, John J. and Lillie.

John Jay Southworth was born at Coldwater, Mich., in 1852, and when he was but three years old emigrated with his parents to Illinois, where he was reared upon a farm and received his primary education at the public schools. At the age of twenty he entered Oberlin College, where he continued a student for some time, and afterward completed his education at Champaign. In 1875 he was married to Miss Mary F. Irwin, who was born in Champaign County, Ill., and who was graduated from the women's department of the Bloomington College. She was engaged as a teacher in her native county, for sometime and was reckoned as one of the best teachers. Soon after their marriage the young couple removed to Archie, where Mr. Southworth engaged in business, and from the start has

been successful. They have had four children: Grace, Walter, Ida and Anna Mary; the latter died when she was twenty months old.

Mr. Southworth owns a fine farm of eighty acres four miles north of Allerton. He is also engaged in the hotel business, he and his wife being the proprietors of the Allerton House. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge, and votes the Republican ticket. The offices of School Director and Trustee have been filled by him with ability. In all his efforts of life in which he has succeeded he has been ably seconded by his intelligent and faithful wife, and it is safe to predict that they will go on prospering. They are prominently identified with the prosperity of their town, and there are no better people in it.

WILLIAM COPELAND is the son of Samuel, whose father was likewise named Samuel, a native of Ireland, having been born near Dublin. He, with his brother, Robert, came to the United States when young men and located at Philadelphia, Pa. From there the brother went to South Carolina, and has not since been heard from by our subject. The grandfather married near Philadelphia, and after a few years removed to Galia County, Ohio, the subject's father being then a little boy. The journey was made on pack horses. The father and older brothers, Isaac and Robert, were carried in a basket lashed to a horse.

That journey was made about 1805, many years previous to the building of any railroads. Even road wagons were not in general use at that time. Sleds were used in all seasons of the year. The only wagons in use in those parts were such as were known as truck wagons, the wheels of which were made of a piece, perhaps six inches, sawed off the end of a round log and a hole bored in the center for the axle, which was also wood. The wheels were held on the axle by wooden linch-pins, in fact the entire wagon was made of wood. The grandparents located among the hills and heavy timber and there made a farm on which they reared their family of eight children, of whom our subject's father was the third child and only survivor. The children were: Robert, Isaac, Samuel, James, Hamilton, Mary A., Jane, and Mahala. The grandparents spent their last days on the Ohio farm. The parents of our subject were married in Galia County, Ohio, the mother being Elizabeth, daughter of William Ham, of German ancestry and early settlers of Ohio.

Like the grandparents, the parents of our subject reared a large family consisting of eleven children: William H., George W., Perry, Mary A., Nancy, Malinda, Andrew, Delila, Clarinda, Emily, and Elizabeth. The four elder were born in Ohio. In 1827, the parents of the subject of this sketch, with their family, removed to this county and made the journey on a keel-boat down the Ohio and up the Wabash to Perrysville, Ind. The father made the boat for the journey and brought the household goods and also salt. Out of the profit on that load of salt he made a start in life. He sold it at Perrysville, where he hired a man with a team to haul his goods and family seven miles northwest of Danville, where he entered eighty acres, part timber and part prairie. His first house was made by laying a pole from one tree to another about ten feet apart on a fork in either tree, against which poles and rails were leaned on each side for a roof. In that tent they lived until they could build a log house, and in this house the family was chiefly reared. After getting the eighty acres in a good state of cultivation he would buy more land as he could, until he had increased his farm to a considerable extent. On that farm the worthy mother spent her last days. The father makes his home with our subject during the winter and with his daughter, Elizabeth, now Mrs. Milton Lamb, of Danville, in the summer. The father of William H. is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church, in which faith his mother died.

In the wilds of Illinois educational advantages were very limited, and the school which our subject attended at twelve years of age was called a "subscription school." Each family would board the teacher in proportion to the number of puplis. The school-house was built of round logs, puncheon floor and slab doors. The window was made with greased paper pasted over the hole cut in a log. The seats were also made of puncheon. The

school term only lasted about three months of the year, these being the winter months, when the work on the farm was retarded by cold weather.

The next step of importance was the marriage of our subject to Miss Rachael Sterns. Her parents were Zara and Mary (Smalley) Sterns. They too were pioneers in this county and came from near Clarkesville, Ohio, and were among the very earliest settlers. They died at an advanced age near Williamsport, Ind. By his first marriage there were ten children: Mary married James Wilson and died in 1860. Mr. Wilson enlisted in the war and was killed at the battle of Chickasaw. Their only surviving child, William H., was reared by our subject for whom he was named; Nancy, now Mrs. W. H. Duncan lives in this county; E. H.; Almeda is married to Frank Johns and died about 1875; Eli lives in Missouri; Andrew Z ; an infant son; Elizabeth now Mrs. John B. Chambers; George; Harmon; and Charles, who died at the age of four years. Mrs. Copeland died Jan. 27, 1831, a worthy member of the Baptist Church in which faith she lived. Our subject was married a second time to Elizabeth Kirkhart, September, 1885. Her parents were also early settlers here and came from Whitsell County, Va., in which State they were born. Her mother, Ann (Courtney) Kirkhart, died when Mrs. Copeland was about eight years old. Her father, John died a few years later, thus leaving her an orphan in early life. Previous to her marriage with the subject of this sketch Mrs. Copeland had been married to Stephen Lamb, who died in 1882.

William Copeland is a member of the Baptist Church, while his wife is a member of the United Brethern Church. He has held the offices in this county of Supervisor, twelve years; School Director, twenty years; Road Commissioner, three years. His politics are strictly Republican. His industrious habits have been crowned by a splendid property in the village of Potomac, where he lives. He owns a large, well furnished frame house and three lots, finely planted with shade and fruit trees. The house has all modern conveniences, and testifies to the neatness and taste of its owners. He also owns another residence and a large business house in the village. Beside these, a fine farm of 440 acres in this county, where he lived for many years, and here his family was reared. He has given each of his children at their marriage $2,500, and still has a competency remaining to keep himself and wife as long as they live. His present prosperous condition speaks well for his good management and frugality, for when first married, in 1841, he was destitute of means. Mr. Copeland is one of those worthy pioneers, who is now living a life of peaceful retirement.

CHARLES E. WHITTON has been a resident of Illinois nearly all his life, though he has lived in Vermilion County but a short time. He was born in Oneida County, N. Y., July 3, 1847, and when a boy, came West with his parents, Robert and Mary (Ferguson) Whitton. They settled on a farm in Grundy County, Ill., and the father and mother are now living at Hammond, Ind., near Chicago. The former is an Englishman by birth, and came to this country with an elder brother when quite young, while the latter is a native of Oneida County, N. Y.

Charles E. Whitton was brought up on the home farm in Grundy County, and when Fort Sumter was fired upon, ardently desired to enter the Union army, but was not accepted because of his youth. On Feb. 7, 1865, however, he stole a few months of the time necessary, and at the age of seventeen years and six months enlisted in Company C, 147th Illinois Infantry, and served for a year. On the declaration of peace, his company was assigned to Provost Marshal duty in Georgia, and was so engaged until Jan. 20, 1866, on which day they were mustered out. After his return, being still but a boy, although a veteran, Mr. Whitton went to school, and for two years studied with an especial view of preparing himself for the profession of school teaching. In this vocation he was subsequently engaged for more than twelve years, mostly in Iroquois County, Ill., and in Benton County, Ind. In the latter county he was also Superintendent of Schools for two years, discharging the responsible duties of that position satisfactorily to the people, and with credit to himself. During all

the years he was teaching he was also working at farming during the summer months. In the spring of 1884 he began work on a rented farm in Iroquois County, but his first wife dying about that time, Mr. Whitton gave up this place, and after his second marriage lived for three years on a farm in Iroquois County, belonging to his present wife. This they sold in 1888, and then bought and removed to the fine farm of 200 acres, on section 21, in Grant Township, where they now make their home.

As stated, Mr. Whitton has been twice married—first in 1877, to Miss Salinda Jones, who died in the spring of 1884, leaving two boys, Lewis and Lawrence. On Dec. 16, 1884, Mr. Whitton was united in marriage with Mrs. Laura B. Dunham, widow of Quincy Dunham, of Logan County, Ill. She is a daughter of David and Mary (Houser) Alsop, and was born in Spencer County, Ky., Aug. 26, 1849. Both the parents were also born in that county, where Mr. Alsop was a farmer. They emigrated to Logan County, Ill., when Laura was but nine years old, and she has ever since been a resident of this State. Her mother died in 1875, and her father is still living in Logan County. He, too, although a southerner by birth, was a soldier of freedom, and served for three years in the Union army as a member of Company F, 106th Illinois Infantry. In fact, all of Mrs. Whitton's connections showed themselves to be true patriots, her father, her father-in-law, her first and her second husband, all having served bravely in the Union ranks. William Dunham, her first husband's father, was Chaplain of the 106th Illinois Infantry, the same regiment in which her father was a soldier. He served through the war, but contracted a disease from which he never recovered, and which terminated his life in 1877.

Laura B. Alsop (now Mrs. Whitton) was married to Quincy Dunham, Dec. 15, 1870. He, like Mr. Whitton, was a youthful soldier, having been born Aug. 6, 1847, in Warren County, Ohio, and on Feb. 10, 1865, when seventeen years and six months old, enlisted in Company M, 6th Illinois Cavalry, serving for nine months, and was discharged Nov. 5, 1865. After his return from the army, young Dunham was engaged in farming pursuits in Logan County until his death. He bought the farm in Iroquois County, on which Mr. and Mrs. Whitton lived after their marriage, but never occupied it himself. The circumstances attending his death, which occured Dec. 9, 1881, were very sad. A man whom he had hired to work on the farm was found to be suffering from smallpox, and Mr. Dunham contracted the disease, and died from it. His brother, Monroe Dunham, who was married to a sister of Mrs. Whitton, and a sister of Mrs. Lucy Zollars, with a child of Monroe's, named Maud, also fell victims to the same dread disease, as did five of their neighbors, making nine in all who died before the pest could be controlled.

Mr. and Mrs. Quincy Dunham became the parents of six children, all of whom are now living with their mother, and are named Clarence E., Mary L., William D., Arthur A., Pearl E. and Grace L. Mr. and Mrs. Whitton have one child, a bright little girl, named Estella K. Though not long residents in Vermilion County, they have lived near its borders, and are well known in this part of the county. Both are respected members of the Christian Church, and he is a member of Boswell Lodge, No. 486, A. F. & A. M., of Boswell, Ind.

Mr. Whitton is known as an industrious, hard-working man, who attends closely to the duties of his farm, in which he is ably assisted by his energetic and capable wife. The farm they now own is a fine property, and under their careful management is being rapidly improved, and when their plans are fully carried out, it will be one of the best properties of its size in this neighborhood.

JOHN H. PARRISH has for twenty years or more been one of the leading men of Sidell Township. As a farmer he is skillful and successful, has a comfortable and beautiful home, and is genial and hospitable in his manner, gaining the good will of all with whom he comes in contact. He is considerable of a politician, and in 1879 was elected Highway Commissioner for a term of three years. He was re-elected in 1885, and served another term. Prior to his assuming the duties of this office the Commis-

sioners had contracted for a large amount of road grading, and unwisely involved the township in debt to the amount of $4,000. By careful management on the part of Mr. Parrish this sum has been greatly reduced, so that the township finances are placed upon a sound basis.

Our subject was born May 7, 1839, in Coshocton County, Ohio. There his early life was spent, and as his brother had left the parental roof when about sixteen years old, John naturally assumed the principal charge of the homestead. To this he brought a bride in 1864, being married that year to Miss Elizabeth Donnelly. This lady was a native of his own county—in fact they had grown up together from childhood. They resided in Ohio until after the birth of two children, coming to this county in 1868. In the meantime the brother, Joseph Parrish, had become owner of a large farm, a part of which our subject rented, and upon which he operated with success. He, however, with many others at the time suffered greatly from ague, a disease common among the early settlers, before the land had been sufficiently cultivated to do away with miasma.

The first purchase of our subject in this county was eighty acres, the nucleus of his present homestead, and to which he added until he had 200 acres. He put up a fine dwelling in 1888, and has brought his land to a good state of cultivation. To him and his estimable wife there were born nine interesting children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Giula, is the wife of Joseph Thompson, of Sidell Township; Melvin P. remains at the homestead; Charles died when eighteen months old; Horace C., Allie, Grace, and Harley are at home. Belle died at the age of eighteen months, and Grover C. died when an infant. Mr. Parrish votes with the Democracy, and is quite prominent in local politics, frequently serving as a delegate to the county conventions. He has also served on the Circuit, Petit, and Grand Juries, and has officiated as School Director for a period of fifteen years.

James and Lania (Hardman) Parrish, the parents of our subject, were natives respectively of Belmont and Coschocton counties, Ohio. The Parrishes were originally from Pennsylvania, in which State the mother's family also flourished quite numerously at an early day. The parents were married in Kosciusko County, where the father successfully pursued his trade of carpenter and joiner, and lived to be seventy-two years old. The mother died when our subject was a lad of seven, leaving besides himself, an older brother, Joseph, and a sister younger, Hannah, now Mrs. W. B. Shane, who lives in Smithfield, Ohio.

GUY C. HOWARD. Among the most prominent merchants of Armstrong, Mr. G. C. Howard takes the lead. He is noted for his success and excellent business qualifications. He was the son of Joseph, whose father, Nathan, was a native of Ohio, and who was of English descent. This gentleman came to Illinois among the pioneers, and located three miles northeast of Danville. His wife, Nancy, was of Irish ancestry. This worthy couple were blest with six children; Joseph, Clinton, Milton, Richard; Julia, who married C. Campbell, and died in this county; and one other, who died quite young. Our subject's father, who was born in Ohio, is the eldest of these children. Here he was united in wedlock with Miss Barbara Snyder, a daughter of Asa B. Snyder, who was also a pioneer. Of this marriage there was but one child, our subject. The father had been previously married to a daughter of Ralph Martin, another pioneer of this county. It was here in Vermilion County that the father died in the year 1850, eighteen months after the birth of their son. The mother lived and devoted all her attention to her child, whom she reared on the farm with great care and precision, and whom she has educated in the district schools. When he became of age he was married to Miss Emily, daughter of William H. Price. This happy event occurred in April, 1878. He was profitably engaged in farming until 1887, when he found employment as a clerk for a Mr. Tilton, in Potomac, for about eighteen months. From here he came to Armstrong, where he has a general store and where he enjoys great prosperity. His stock is valued from $3,000 to $5,000. His

J. Miller McCabe

trade runs from $12,000 to $15,000 a year. He carries an unusually fine line of general merchandise.

Mr. Howard is a Democrat, and a member of the A. F. & A. M. of Potomac, his wife being a member of the "Eastern Star" of that lodge. When our subject began business he had nothing to help him on but a determined character and a pair of willing hands. These, however, are effectual instruments, and never fail to prove themselves true weapons in his battles with the ordinary obstacles of life. From what we have already seen of his energy, we cannot but predict for him a bright and prosperous future.

JOHN M. McCABE. This friend of the laboring man has made for himself an undeniably fine record in connection with the important question which is to-day absorbing the minds of intelligent men everywhere. A man of more than ordinary talent and possessed of large information, he has not only studied this but many other questions of political economy, and his published opinions have had a marked effect upon the complexion of party politics in this part of the State. A man of broad and liberal ideas, and with the faculty of giving voice to his opinions in forcible language, he has for years been a power in the community, and has, it is evident, sought to exert his influence for good and good only. Mr. McCabe, while affiliating with the Union Labor party, is also a strong advocate of prohibition, and favored a union of the two parties.

We are constrained, before proceeding further, to glance at the home surroundings of Mr. McCabe, who has one of the most pleasant and inviting mansions in Fairmount and vicinity—a large, old-fashioned house, built in the early days, and situated on the corner south of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It stands on an eminence gently sloping to the south, while stretching east is a fine orchard containing large and spreading trees, a useful old-fashioned garden, and twenty acres of pasture, in the midst of which is a fish pond stocked with German carp. Recently the School Directors have purchased two acres of the twenty for the purpose of building a fine graded school building. The whole premises are both comfortable and elegant, and form one of the most attractive features in the landscape of this region. The tile works, of which Mr. McCabe is proprietor, and which lie at the north end of Main street, were erected in 1882, and have been prosecuted successfully since that time.

The subject of this sketch was born in Dearborn County, Ind., Feb. 19, 1844, and is the fifth child in a family of nine, the offspring of Alex and Rhoda (Knapp) McCabe, who were natives respectively of Ohio and North Carolina. The father followed farming after his marriage, in Dearborn County, Ind., to which he had removed with his parents at an early day. Grandfather Knapp was a native of New York State. Alex McCabe, after his marriage, continued in Indiana until 1872, then removed with his family to Stanberry, Mo., where he and his excellent wife still live. Six sons and two daughters lived to become men and women.

Mr. McCabe, our subject, attended school quite regularly until a youth of eighteen years, mostly in the winter season, and worked on the farm with his father. In 1863, desirous of starting out in life for himself, he left home, arriving at Fairmount with a capital of $2.37, and in debt $5 to his mother for money borrowed to help him get away. Arriving at Fairmount, he engaged in work for Mr. James M. Dougherty, about one mile northeast of town, and with whom he remained until the fall of that year. The winter following he taught school at Walnut Grove. The year following he attended school at Danville a short time, and subsequently resumed work on a farm.

In the meantime our subject had his mind intent upon establishing a home of his own, and in the fall of 1864 was united in marriage with Miss Mary E., daughter of Mr. Samuel Dougherty. The maiden name of Mrs. McCabe's mother was Jane Dalby, and Miss Mary was the third child in a family of seven. The newly wedded pair settled on a rented farm, where they struggled along amid many difficulties and drawbacks, Mr. McCabe farming in summer and teaching school in winter until the spring of 1880. He then resolved to

change his occupation, and abandoning the farm, secured an interest in a flour mill at Fairmount. He withdrew from this eighteen months later, and turned his attention to the manufacture of tile. He put up an old-fashioned Indiana tile shed on a small scale, using one kiln. By the exercise of great industry and energy his business advanced slowly but surely, and in time he was obliged to enlarge his facilities. He now has one of the most extensive factories of the kind in his part of the State, and in addition to the first products, has added brickmaking and roofing-tile of a new design known as "Donaldson's patent," which is by one-half the lightest roofing-tile ever manufactured in any country.

Mr. McCabe has now the only manufactory, excepting a flour mill, in the town, and the people of this vicinity are justly proud of this enterprise, which gives employment to a number of men, and enters largely into the success and reputation of its industrial interests. At present (June, 1889) the works demand the services of fifteen men, with a prospect in the near future of the number being doubled. The buildings and equipments are fully in keeping with the demands of the business, which is not only a credit to the town, but to its instigator and proprietor.

In politics Mr. McCabe always has an opinion and is never afraid to express it. He was in former years an ardent Republican, but of late has not been tied to any party. He was a delegate to the National Labor Conference at Cincinnati, Ohio, and was nominated for Representative in this district on the Union Labor ticket in 1888. He has officiated as Justice of the Peace, Village Trustee and School Director, and has been for years a member of the Knights of Labor, the Good Templars, the Grange, and the Masonic fraternity, holding in each organization important offices. He and his excellent wife are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Fairmount, and for some time Mr. McCabe was Superintendent of the Sunday-school.

Only two of the four children born to our subject and his estimable wife are living, both daughters. The eldest, Effie, was married in March, 1889, to Owen McClenathan, and they live five miles east of Fairmount. Elsie, a bright child of nine years, is pursuing her studies in the village school, and is a fine amateur musician, playing well on both organ and guitar.

Among other valuable features of this volume, the portraits of influential citizens of the county hold no second rank. And of these portraits an important place belongs to Mr. McCabe, the friend of the laborer.

REV. MICHAEL OAKWOOD. The strong points in the character of this most efficient minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, have been his energetic and uniform advocacy of temperance, and his devotion to the cause of the Master, as exemplified in his pulpit work, extending over a period of thirty-five years. He is possessed in a marked degree of the gift of language, and has delivered some very powerful and stirring sermons, calculated to have a lasting effect upon his hearers. A man's habits and disposition are usually indicated by his home surroundings, and the fact that we find Mr. Oakwood the possessor of a fine farm, with all needful appurtenances, and surrounded by the evidences of refined and cultivated tastes, indicates the efficiency with which he has labored and the solidity of his general character, by which he has attained to an enviable position socially and financially among his fellow-citizens.

The subject of this sketch was born in Brown County, Ohio, Nov. 10, 1823. His father was a native of Virginia, of German ancestry, and reared in Tennessee. Being an only son, the name was only preserved in America through him. When a youth of nineteen years he emigrated to Kentucky, where he afterward married Miss Margaret Remley, who was also of German descent. She, with her parents, had emigrated to Kentucky from Pennsylvania, going down the Ohio River on a flatboat, when the Indians were numerous along its shores. The Remleys were a thrifty and long-lived family, the mother of our subject living to nearly the eighty-ninth year of her age.

Henry Oakwood departed this life at the age of sixty-five years. He was a strong, athletic man, of

very genial temperament, and kept himself well posted upon the general events of the age in which he lived, especially in the politics of the country. He was a warm supporter of the Whig party, and held some of the local offices, among them justice of the peace. He followed farming for his occupation, and reared a family of six sons and three daughters. He served in the War of 1812, and participated in the battles of the British and Indians at the fall of the celebrated chief, Tecumseh.

The father of our subject was a resident of Ohio for a number of years, but in 1833 emigrated to Illinois, settling in this county when Michael was a lad of ten years. The people around him were few and far between, and located mostly along the borders of the timber that skirted the streams. The broad prairies were occupied by deer, wolves and other wild animals in abundance. A village of Indians was located about a mile from the Oakwood residence, which was frequently visited by these native sons and daughters of America, who seemed to enjoy their contact with civilization although unwilling to give up their own rude manner of life.

On account of the limited number of white people in the new settlement, the early education of our subject was conducted at home, there being no established school in his township for three years. This want, however, was partially compensated for by the father taking the place of instructor on winter evenings, when the children would form a semicircle around the huge fireplace, and, largely by the light of the burning wood, would pursue their evening studies with their books and slates. Greater ambition to excel is seldom witnessed in the schoolroom than existed in that little family circle, and Michael was greatly encouraged to find himself a little in advance of some of his older brothers in his studies.

By the prosecution of his home studies, with the aid of the later meager school privileges afforded, our subject, with four of his brothers, became a teacher, and still further anxious to excel in learning, mastered some of the higher branches of an English education, and especially delighted in wrestling with difficult mathematical problems and investigating the principles of metaphysical science. History, both ancient and modern, received a fair share of attention. He was much interested in the history of the nations of the earth, as made in his own day by their struggles, both in time of war and in peace, the gradual advance of human liberty, and the improved condition of mankind, politically intellectually, morally, socially and religiously.

In politics Mr. Oakwood was a Republican from the foundation of the party through all its struggles and took an active part in promoting its success. During the Civil War he was frequently called upon to address large gatherings of citizens, and labored as far as he was able to keep alive the enthusiasm necessary to the success of the Union arms. Although never aspiring to political honors, he frequently held the local offices. He was a member of the board of supervisors seven years, served one term as justice of the peace much against his inclination, and frequently discharged the duties of the other local offices.

Mr. Oakwood very early in life was made the subject of deep religious impressions. His parents were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and in the pioneer days before the country was supplied with church buildings, their large farm house afforded a place for regular meetings for preaching and other religious services. Being liberal in their views, there were welcomed under this hospitable roof Methodists, Presbyterians, and various other religious denominations, who were all permitted to seek God in the manner best suited to their separate views.

Michael Oakwood, at the age of twenty-eight years, united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and soon afterward was licensed to preach, but declined entering the itinerant field. He was ambitious to study and to "show himself approved unto God, a workman that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth," as Paul advised Timothy. So he committed himself to a Biblical and theological course of study.

In entering upon his ministerial career, Mr. Oakwood rather adopted the expository and didactic style, and his gifts as a pulpit orator were speedily recognized to be such as would command the respect and attention of his hearers. On the 2d of October, 1864, he was ordained deacon by Bishop E. R. Ames, and on Sept. 28, 1873, was ordained

elder by Bishop I. W. Wiley. During his ministry he has received many into the church, united many in marriage, preached many funeral sermons, and administered upon many occasions the ordinances of the church, baptizing as many as fifty in a day, at other times thirty, twenty and in lesser numbers. He held the office of recording steward for the long period of thirty-one years, besides many other official positions in his church.

Mr. Oakwood has been twice married. In 1846 he was wedded to Miss Nancy, daughter of Samuel Copeland of Blount Township, with whom he lived happily for six years, and at her death was left with one child—Samuel H. Their first-born, Elizabeth, died in infancy. In 1853 Mr. Oakwood was again married to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. John P. Mills, then of Ross Township. She is still living, and is a highly-esteemed Christian lady, well educated, and for some time before her marriage was engaged as a teacher. The issue of this union was one daughter and three sons. The daughter, Belle, died at the age of twenty-five years; she was possessed of superior intellectual endowments and a fine Christian character, which, united to her thorough education and usefulness as a teacher, conspired to draw around her a large circle of warm friends. Wilbur, a promising boy, died in the second year of his age; Edwin, a deeply pious child, and a member in full connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church, died at the age of nine years.

John M. Oakwood, the only surviving child of our subject, is now (1889) twenty-three years of age. He was married in 1888 to Miss Effie, daughter of Rev. A. G. Copeland of Danville. He has been a Christian from childhood and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is well educated, a great lover of books, and has been engaged in teaching in the Champaign county schools for several years, being at present principal of the high school at St. Joseph. Samuel H., the son of the first marriage, has likewise been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since childhood; he is now forty years of age. He acquired a good education in his youth, and followed the profession of a teacher several years, after which he embarked in the mercantile business at Newtown. He lived there a few years, then removed his business to Danville, where he still resides. In 1878 he was united in marriage with Miss Laura Bennett, daughter of John Bennett of Georgetown. Two sons and two daughters were born of this union, but only one child is living, Belva, a promising little girl of four years.

The Oakwood homestead is one of the most attractive and beautiful in the township of the same name, and our subject, at the age of sixty-six years, with his faithful and estimable companion, surrounded by friends and in the enjoyment of a happy home, sees much that is desirable in life, and as opportunity occurs seeks to alleviate the afflictions of those less fortunate.

Rev. John P. Mills, the father of Mrs. Oakwood, was a regularly ordained local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and died at his home in Fairmount Aug. 20, 1882. His estimable wife passed away some years before, Nov. 15, 1868. The father of Mr. Oakwood died in October, 1856, and the mother March 8, 1878.

PHILIP Y. PETERSON is one of the younger citizens of Grant Township, living on section 5. He was born in Salem County, N. J., Nov. 11, 1847. His parents were named Samuel and Jane (Paden) Peterson, both of whom are now living in Woodford County, this State. The elder Peterson is now retired from active life, being seventy-two years of age, and his wife sixty-seven. Both are hearty and rugged. They are natives of Salem County, N. J., and are descended from Swedish ancestors who settled in this country many generations ago. The elder Peterson was left an orphan at the age of four years, and his mother marrying again, he was brought up in the house of his stepfather, and is essentially a selfmade man, who has made his own way in the world, and now, in his old age is enjoying an ample fortune, the result of years of industry and good management. He was married in his native State at the age of twenty-five, but some years later he determined to try his fortunes in the great West, and with his wife and family moved

to Jefferson County, Ind., but he stayed there only six months, not liking the country, and so, taking his wife, six children and household goods, he came to Peoria, Ill. This was in the fall of 1856, and to support his family that winter he engaged in hauling coal, his wife also helping to support the family by her labor. Next spring he rented a farm twenty miles west of Peoria and the succeeding year bought a place twenty-five miles northeast of that city. On this latter place he made his home till 1885, when he relinquished all active labor. When he first came to Illinois, Mr. Peterson was poor in this world's goods, but rich in pluck, energy and ambition. He now owns three farms in Woodford County, Ill., for the poorest of which he has refused $70 an acre. He owns 400 acres of land altogether. He also possesses a half interest in the elevator at Benson, a handsome residence there, and other property, also a farm of 160 acres in Grant Township, this county, besides personal property. Mr. Peterson has all of his lifetime been very industrious and has taken care to avoid public office, attending strictly to his own affairs. He and his wife joined the Baptist Church the year after they were married, and for many years he has been an officer of his church in Benson. He was also Trustee of his township. He is a man of genial, happy temperament and kind disposition, upright and honorable in his dealings with his fellow men and is held in universal esteem for his correct life and conduct.

Samuel and Jane Peterson are the parents of eight children, all of whom are living, the family cord being unbroken by death. They are named respectively: Mary P. wife of James I. Jeter, a farmer in Woodford County; Simeon P., was married to Sarah Jane Huxtable and is a farmer, tile manufacturer and owner of three threshing machines and is living in Benson, Ill.; Philip Y. was next in order, then David C., who married Ellen Deal; he is a butcher in Rossville, this county. Lewis S. and Sarah Jane are twins; the former is married to Emma Ray, living in Benson, where Lewis S. is running an elevator, lumber yard, and also operates a branch bank. Sarah Jane is the wife of George Tallman, a dairyman of Grant Township, this county; Annie Margaret is the wife of Cal. Hoff, a farmer in Woodford County, Ill., and Maria Frances is married to James Huxtable, a merchant of Benson, Ill. Beside their children Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have twenty-four grandchildren living, and an unusual case, is that they have never lost a child by death, and but one grandchild.

Philip Y. Peterson, was eight years of age when his parents emigrated to Indiana. He well remembers passing through Danville on their way to Peoria, and says then it was but a collection of small houses, principally shanties inhabited by coal miners. He spent his boyhood on the home farm in Woodford County, Ill, receiving such education as was afforded by the limited facilities of the time and place. The nearest school was three and a half miles away and not a bridge being built in the locality, when he attended school he had to wade across the sloughs the best way he could. Under these circumstances he got what little schooling he received. He stayed on the home farm until he was twenty-one, after which he began farming on land belonging to his father, who furnished each of his boys with a team, and boarded them the first year for half the produce of their farms. He lived on land of his father's for five years and then bought a place of 120 acres in Woodford County, and there continued to live until in March, 1882, he sold out and removed to this county. Land here was much cheaper, and just as good as there, and he bought 120 acres of his present home, subsequently adding forty more, and he also leases eighty acres, which joins his land on the south. In 1886 Mr. Peterson erected the fine new modern house which he now occupies and which makes a comfortable and commodious home for the family.

February 23, 1872, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage with Miss Allie Chaney, who was left an orphan at an early age, her mother dying when she was six years old, and her father two years later while he was in the Union army. She was adopted and brought up by a German couple, named Shoup. She was born in Huntington County, Ind., Aug. 10, 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are the parents of four children, all at home: Katie F., Lillie Dell, Bessie Jane and Myrtle Edna. Mr. Peterson has never held any office in this county other than that

of School Director. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church in Grant Township and he is connected with its Sabbath-school. By his neighbors who know him best, Mr. Peterson is highly respected as an honest straightforward man and a good citizen.

DANIEL CAMPBELL stands among the honest, manly, industrious farmers and stock-raisers of Pilot Township who have made its interests their own, and while building up comfortable homes in this pleasant locality have materially contributed to its advancement. His fine well-stocked farm on section 12 compares favorably in all its appointments with the best in the vicinity, and is sufficient evidence that he has achieved success in his chosen calling, although he began life as a poor man and has had to work his way up from the lowest round of the ladder leading to prosperity.

Our subject is a native of New York, and first opened his eyes to the light of day in Washington County Aug. 20, 1828. His father, Thomas Campbell, was born in Massachusetts, came to this county in 1868, following his son Daniel to this place, and died in 1879 at a ripe old age. The mother of our subject was Naby Swain, whose parents were of Scottish birth and ancestry, and they came to this country some time early in this century or in the latter part of the last one, and settled in Washington County, N. Y., where she was born. She died in 1831, while yet a young woman. She bore to her husband five children, two of whom are living, Marvin S. and our subject. The former, who married a Miss Cole of New York, lives in Troy, that State, retired from active business.

Daniel Campbell passed his boyhood and the opening years of his manhood in the State of his nativity, gleaning such education as was afforded by the schools of the time. In 1856, being then twenty-eight years of age, and in the possession of a sound mind in a sound body, he determined to try life on the rich, virgin plains of the great West, and selecting this part of Illinois as having in all respects the characteristics of soil, climate, etc., most desirable in the eyes of a young farmer and necessary to the successful prosecution of his calling, he came to Vermilion County and bought 240 acres of improved land in Pilot Township. He immediately entered upon his task of bringing it to a high state of cultivation, erecting suitable buildings as his means allowed, making the place in every way one of the most desirable farms in this part of Vermilion County. By well-directed toil, close economy and sagacious management he has become very prosperous, and now owns 500 acres of as well tilled and productive soil as is to be found in this fine agricultural region, and he has erected a comfortable, roomy set of buildings for all needful purposes. He is engaged extensively in mixed husbandry, raising grain, and other farm products common to the soil, and he has his farm well supplied with stock of good grades, comprising sixty head of cattle, thirty horses, 160 sheep and forty-five hogs.

Mr. Campbell has had the effective aid of one of the most helpful of wives in his work, their marriage occurring in 1854. Mrs. Campbell's maiden name was Maggie Campbell, and she was of Irish birth and parentage, her parents being James and Nancy (Pinkerton) Campbell. She came to this country with two of her brothers. Seven children have come to our subject and his amiable wife in their pleasant wedded life, of whom the following are married and settled in life: Sarah J. is the wife of Marion Kirkpatrick, a tile maker, of Indiana, and they have one child, Pearl; Thomas, an agricultural implement dealer and grain buyer of Penfield, Ill., married Dora Kirkpatrick of Indiana, and they have two children, Samuel and May; Mary F. is the wife of Fred Thomas, a farmer of Wisconsin, and they have two children, Otis and Reed; Rosetta is the wife of Henry Hibbler, a farmer of this county, and they have five children—Logan, Earl, Lola, Amy, Ernest.

Mr. Campbell is gifted with keenness and tenacity of purpose, and a well-balanced mind, and these attributes have not only placed him with the solid, representative men of the township, but they have rendered his services as a civic official invaluable during his incumbency of the various local offices that have been entrusted to him by the votes of

his fellow townsmen, and as a juryman. In politics he is a firm believer in the Republican party, and advocates its policy on all proper times and occasions. Both he and his wife are devoted members of the Christian Church, and their children also belong.

JACOB DAZEY. The present commercial importance and prosperity of Hoopeston is unquestionably traceable to the wisdom of her merchants, and it is a fitting tribute to those who have honorably distinguished themselves in the commercial arena that their names should be commemorated in history. It is a fact worthy of consideration that nearly all of our prominent business men have struggled up from obscurity to the foremost places in every branch of trade. As a representative of this class, the following is a brief outline of one who has attained the leading position he holds to-day among the merchants of Vermilion County.

Mr. Dazey is a prominent merchant of Hoopeston, where he carries on an extensive business in heavy and shelf hardware, agricultural implements and lumber. In 1855 he came from Indiana, his native State, having been born there on the 25th of March, 1831, near Attica. He remained with his father on the old homestead until he was married, which event occurred on Aug. 18, 1853. His wife, Miss Sarah Whitlatch, died about one year after her marriage. When Mr. Dazey came to Illinois, he purchased a farm of 160 acres which he increased later on to 640. Upon this tract of land he erected the very best of buildings and the improvements are of the very highest order. He continued the business of farming until Dec. 15, 1881 when he removed to Hoopeston and engaged in his present business.

On April 27, 1855, Mr. Dazey married the second time, taking for his wife, Miss Lorinda Wilkinson, who was born in Montgomery County, Ind., May 4, 1838, where she resided until coming to Illinois in 1851. She is the daughter of Abram Wilkinson, one of the early pioneers of Vermilion County, who married Mrs. Harriet Hawkins. They were the parents of two sons and two daughters. Mr. Hawkins came from Indiana to this county and entered land upon which he resided until about 1877, when he removed to Benton County, Ind., remaining there until 1881, when he finally came to Hoopeston, where he has lived with his wife a retired life. Mr. and Mrs. Dazey are the parents of six sons and one daughter, all of whom are still living:—Charles M., James H., John, William, Frank, George, and Elizabeth. The youngest son and daughter are at home. James H. is married and has three children; Charles M. married Miss Mary Fitzgibbons; they are living on a farm near Milford, Ill., and have one child. John married Maggie Williamson and is residing on the old homestead; they have one child. William married Miss Smith; they are living on a farm and have two children. Frank married Miss Eva Dobe; he is engaged in the mercantile business at Hoopeston.

Mr. and Mrs. Dazey are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which they take great interest. He is one of the trustees of that organization and politically he is identified with the Republican party.

James Dazey, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Ohio, where he married Miss Mary Gobel and came from Montgomery County, Ind., where he was engaged in farming. In his early days he was a shoemaker, a business he carried on with success, but latterly he was a farmer. He died at Tolona, Ill., his wife passing away at the same place in 1883.

FREDERIC JONES is intimately connected with the material prosperity of Catlin Township as one of its enterprising, progressive, business-like farmers and stock-raisers, and the farm that he possesses here, finely located on section 35, is in all respects a well-appointed, well-managed estate, comparing favorably with the best in this region of fine farms.

Our subject is of English ancestry and birth, as were also his parents, Henry and Sarah (Hough) Jones. He was their sixth child and was born in the city of London, England, May 28, 1844. In 1849 his parents brought him to America, and he

was reared to manhood in Catlin Township, and can scarcely remember any other home. He was a quick scholar and gleaned a very good education in the common schools. When about fourteen years old he entered upon a mercantile career, going into his father's employ at that age as a clerk. He was in the store about a year and a half when he went to Lafayette, Ind., to learn the trade of a blacksmith in the Lafayette and Indianapolis Railway shops. He served an apprenticeship of two years and two months, and at the expiration of that time returned to Catlin and building a blacksmith shop, formed a partnership with S. A. McGregor, Sr., and carried on his trade, of which he had gained a thorough mastery, the ensuing two years. At the end of that time he dissolved his partnership with Mr. McGregor and again became a clerk in his brother Richard's store. He remained with him sixteen years, and when his brother died he entered into partnership with his brother Arthur, and they conducted the business together about two years. Our subject then sold out his interest, having decided to devote his attention to the more congenial calling of a farmer, and at that time invested a part of his capital in his present farm, which he has owned since 1880. It comprises 171 acres, all under good cultivation and finely improved, having an excellent set of farm buildings and modern machinery for conducting agriculture after the most approved methods.

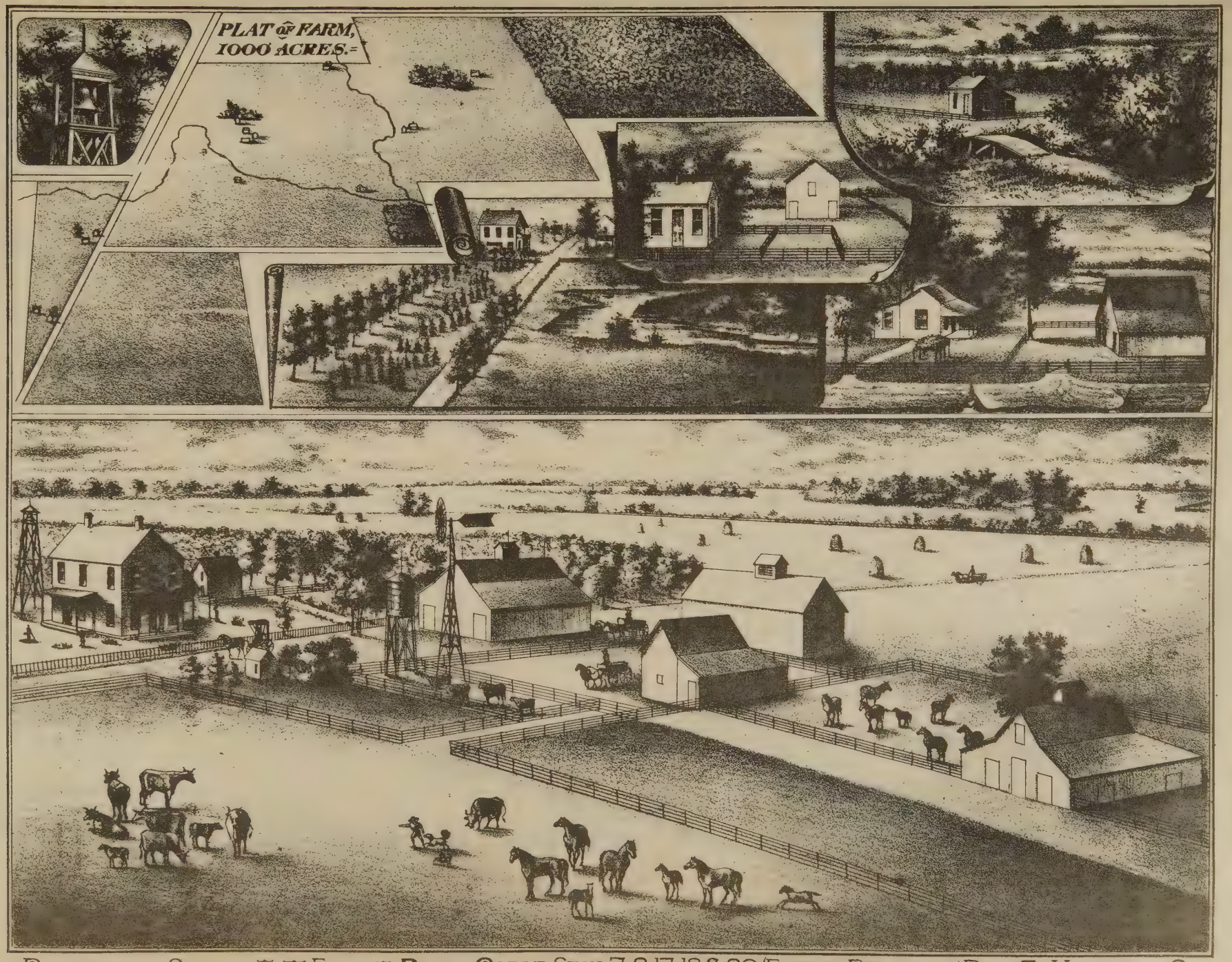
The successful career of our subject is partly attributable to the fact that he is blessed with a wife who is in every sense a helpmate. Their marriage was solemnized Dec. 5, 1866, and to them have come ten children—James, Emma, Richard, Harriet A., Elizabeth, Sarah, Frederic, Arthur, Henry, Edward. Mrs. Jones' maiden name was Harriet Ann Dickinson, and she is like her husband a native of England, born in Boston, Lincolnshire, Dec. 28, 1847, to William and Emma (Barker) Dickinson. (For parental history see the sketch of William Dickinson that appears on another page of this work).

Mr. Jones is in all respects a manly, upright man, is well and favorably known here, and his influence in the community is felt in everything that tends to promote its welfare. He takes an active part in political matters, and in him the Republican party finds one of its truest and staunchest advocates. Religiously both he and his amiable wife sympathize with the teachings of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and carry its Christian spirit into their everyday lives. They are genial, courteous people, and their attractive home is the center of perfect hospitality.

GEORGE M. EVANS. The Keystone State has contributed largely of her best elements to the development of the Great West, numbers of men coming thither at all ages and under all conditions, the greater majority, perhaps, those who were dependent upon their own resources and just starting out in life to carve their fortunes by the labor of their hands. The homes of these men are among the finest in Central Illinois. The farm of Mr. Evans, finely situated on the northern line of this county, invariably attracts the attention of the passing traveler, and gives ample evidence of being under the control of a man of more than ordinary ability. It will be acknowledged that he has the true conception of the manner in which to conduct agriculture, and he possesses the cultivated tastes which have enabled him to construct a home second to none in this region.

The property of Mr. Evans embraces 328 acres of land, lying on section 26, township 23, range 12, where he settled seven years ago, although he purchased it in 1879. He has effected a radical change in its condition, and purposes to still further augment its beauty and value. He came to Illinois when a young man, twenty-four years old, from Berks County, Pa., where he was born in 1852. He made his first trip West in 1876, and after sojourning in Grant Township one year he returned to Pennsylvania, where he spent the winter following and came back to this county in the spring of 1877, and two years later purchased his present homestead.

The subject of this sketch was married in Grant Township, to Miss Tillie Groom, the wedding taking place at the bride's home, Sept. 22, 1885. This lady is a native of this county. Her father, Fred-



RESIDENCE & SCENES ON THE FARM OF **PHILIP CADLE** SECS 7-8-17-18 & 20, (EAST OF ROSSVILLE) ROSS TP. VERMILION CO.

erick Groom, came to Illinois from England, carried on farming a number of years, and then retiring from active labor took up his abode in Rossville, where he now lives. John Evans, the father of our subject, was a native of Pennsylvania, where, upon reaching manhood, he married Miss Anna Miller. He settled on a farm in Berks County, and died when his son George M. was a lad of ten or twelve years. His widow survived him until about four years since, her death taking place in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Evans upon becoming a naturalized citizen allied himself with the Republican party, and still gives to it his unqualified support. Aside from serving as School Director in his district he has had very little to do with public affairs.

PHILLIP CADLE, an extensive and well-known farmer of Vermilion County and one whose career has been marked by success, was born in England on the 22d of February, 1849. When four years of age he came to America with his parents and is practically an American bred man. His education was acquired in the common schools, and until he became of age, he worked for his father faithfully on the old homestead.

Phillip Cadle is the son of George and Elizabeth (Saunders) Cadle, who were natives of England and were living in Bradfordshire at the time they concluded to better themselves by emigrating to America. They sailed from the old country in 1853 and after landing upon American soil, they immediately proceeded to Attica, Ind., where for four years they were engaged in farming, at the expiration of which period they removed to Iroquois County, Ill., four miles north of Hoopeston. Here they remained for two years more, when they again removed to a farm situated one and a half miles southwest of Rossville, Ill., remaining there for three years. Their next removal was to Salt Fork, west of Danville, where they lived for thirteen years, removing from that place to Homer, Ill., where the elder Cadle is living in retirement, with his wife, enjoying a well earned rest. They are the parents of eight children: Emma was married in England to Thomas Edwards and they are now living near Armstrong, Ill.; Ann is the wife of D. Young and they are residing in Idaho; Jane married James Tolliver, both of whom are deceased; Rachael is the wife of C. Hayes. She died some years ago; Sidney G. is dead; Martha married John Mann; Phillip is the subject of this article, while Dora is at home with her father and mother at Homer, Ill. Mr. Cadle's first marriage occurred in Vermilion County, Ill., May 30, 1871, his wife being Miss Emma Weaden, a native of Virginia. Of this union one child was born, Mary Anna, who died when four months of age. The wife died Oct. 23, 1872.

In 1875 Phillip Cadle married Miss America Seymour. She is a native of Virginia but came here when a very small child with her parents, who are living at Oakwood, this county. She was the sixth child of a family of nine children. Mr. and Mrs. Cadle are the parents of four bright children: Lilian, Maud, George and Dode, all of whom are living at home and going to school. In addition to his general farming Mr. Cadle is engaged very extensively in the stock business, a combination which has been a success from a pecuniary point of view.

In 1876 he purchased 381 acres where he now lives, and at this time, really commenced his active career as a large dealer in hogs and cattle. In the aggregate he owns 915 acres of the very choicest land that lies in Vermilion County, and the buildings that he has erected are nearly equal to that of a small village, consisting of barns, stables, granaries, an elevator, and in fact everything that goes to make up a well appointed farm. He has also a fine system of water-works that supplies his house, pastures and different barns with fresh, pure water. Mr. Cadle deals in grains of all kinds, but more especially in wheat.

Mr. Cadle is a consistent Republican and while he has never aspired to office, has held local positions, filling them with the same fidelity which he has shown in his private affairs. Mr. Cadle's success in life can be directly traced to his prompt business habits, his integrity and his capacity for judging human nature. He is truly a self-made

man and the fortune he now owns has been accumulated within the last eighteen years.

A view of the farm residence of Mr. Cadle is shown elsewhere in this volume.

GEORGE ALLEN is the proprietor of Shropshire Park. His father, George Allen, was known to Europe and America as the leading breeder of Bate Short-horn cattle and Shropshire sheep. The history of this extensive enterprise of breeding, dates back to the early life of the father. While yet a young man he showed a desire and liking for the better grades of cattle and sheep and his son has inherited this disposition to an eminent degree.

George Allen, Sr., was born in Derbyshire, England, while the grandfather was a tenant farmer of the same place and was born there also. This family were all remarkable for their great stature, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch being a man of six feet five inches in height, and measured one yard from one shoulder point to another. George Allen, Sr., was a remarkably large and well-proportioned man and possessed great vigor and unusual activity. He served in the English cavalry for several years, and was distinguished as one of the finest appearing soldiers in the British army. He married Elizabeth Turner, who was a native of England and the daughter of William and Sarah Turner, farmers. After their marriage, they settled at Knightly, England, and there began the breeding of Short-horn cattle, and for the long period of thirty-five years, Mr. Allen continued in this business on the same farm, gaining a wide-spread reputation as a most successful breeder of the best strains of cattle and sheep in England. He operated an extensive farm of 400 acres and here he reared a family of four children—George, Robert H., Mary Ann and Harry. Robert H., is residing at Darlington, Ind., where he is engaged in the mercantile business. Mary Ann is residing at Stafford, England, where she married William Ebbern, who is an extensive manufacturer of ladies' fine shoes and operates a very large business. They have four children. Harry, is the executor of the Allen estate and the firm according to the father's will is to continue under the same management and retain the firm name of George Allen & Son.

The subject of this sketch and his father saw greater fields for operations in America than in England. They shipped several cargoes of sheep here, exhibiting them for the first time at St. Louis in 1871. This shipment proved profitable and fully exceeded their expectations. The entire management of this enterprise was under George, Jr. He exhibited his stock at Dayton, Ohio, also, in 1872, on the occasion of Goldsmith Maid's making her great record. The same year he also showed his stock at Indianapolis and St. Louis. This plan of business was followed for several years and so successfully that in 1879, George and his father—including the entire family—came to America, for the purpose of engaging in cattle and sheep raising, bringing 100 head of Shropshire sheep and twenty-two head of the Bate Short-horn cattle. After casting about for a suitable location they finally concluded that Vermilion County, met all the requirements they were seeking. Here they purchased 960 acres of land, and at once entered upon a career as breeders of cattle and sheep, which in many ways cannot be duplicated in America. The mother died March 6, 1881, at the age of fifty-six years, while the father met his death, March 16, 1889, at the age of sixty-two. And so passed away a couple whose reputation was of the very best and who made this world the better for their living in it.

George Allen, of whom this is written, was born April 15, 1848 at Tean, Staffordshire, England. He was reared as a stock-raiser and farmer, an occupation which he has followed since he was twelve years of age. He received a common school education, which has been added to since by intelligent and careful reading. At the age of twenty-seven years he was married to Miss Ann Elizabeth Ellsmore, who is a daughter of John and Lucy Ellsmore. They were farmers in England and had two children that grew to maturity: Ann E., and William T. The latter is residing at Stafford, England, and is a shoe manufacturer. Mr. and Mrs. Allen had two children born in England;

George and Florence, who are now at home and attending school. Since coming to America the following children have been born—Frederick C., William, Elizabeth and Harry.

It is unnecessary to state that perhaps there is no man in this country who has a better reputation as a breeder of Short-horn cattle and Shropshire sheep, than Mr. Allen, who has taken more prizes for the excellent qualities of sheep than any other man in the world, a record of which he feels, naturally, very proud. From a financial standpoint, he has been most eminently successful, and the proceeds of the earnings of his great stock farm is invested in more lands and stock. He has become a naturalized citizen and is a Republican in politics. Mr. and Mrs. Allen worship at the Presbyterian Church.

Of the celebrated Bate Short-horn cattle, the Allens have on hand about 150 of the following families: Airdrie Duchess, Grand Duchess, Oxfords, Barringtons, Wild Eyes, Waterloos, Kirk Levingtons, Fletchers, Fennel Duchess, Acombs, Places, Darlingtons, Georgiannas, Eden Rose, Rose of Sharon and Surmises. The Duke of Vermilion No. 80443, stands at the head of the herd. The Grand Duke of Oxford holds the second place, and is the son of the Duke of Vermilion. He will some day take his place at the head of the herd. The most valuable animals on the farm are the Duchess of Vermilion, Grand Duchess No. 28 and the Duke of Vermilion, which in point of excellence have never been surpassed inthe State of Illinois or perhaps in America. They have a flock of 500 sheep with three celebrated imported rams at the head. Goodsort No. 9904, won second prize at the Royal Agricultural Society in England in 1888, and cost $300 delivered at Boston. Truetype, No. 5603, A. S. R. A., won first prize as a lamb at the Shropshire Agricultural Show, at Shrewsbury, England, in 1887. This animal was imported the same year. T. & W. S. No. 13438, A. S. R. A. was the first prize winning lamb in England in 1888. Among the most valuable ewes on this farm may be mentioned Lady Bradburn second, and Jane L., who are great prize winners.

The horse breeding department of this farm has been added lately. The celebrated English Shire horse Wymondham 2960 E. C. H. S. B. is considered to be as well bred a shire horse as can be found in America. There are also six registered Shire mares on this farm.

Shropshire Park is a most fitting name for this extensive farm, which is one of the most valuable in the State of Illinois It has more the appearance of a fair ground than a farm. It is well provided with a multitude of houses, sheds, corn cribs and implement houses. There are five windmills on the farm which furnish water and grinding power. In concluding this sketch it would be proper to state that there are probably no more intelligent stock breeders than the gentlemen who compose the firm of George Allen & Son, of Allerton, Ill.

JESSE DAVIS. Although not a native of Vermilion County, this gentleman, the son of pioneer parents, was reared within its limits, and has for many years occupied an important place among its enterprising, far-seeing, thrifty, well-to-do farmers and stock-raisers. On section 36, Catlin Township, he owns a large and valuable farm, cultivated by the best methods, so that it yields an extensive yearly income. He has erected a fine residence and other substantial, well arranged buildings, while everything about the place shows every evidence of a master mind and skillful hand controlling affairs.

Our subject is of Southern antecedents, although a native of Ohio. His parents, Joseph and Elizabeth (George) Davis, are supposed to have been natives of Virginia, but after their marriage they settled in Pickaway County, Ohio, among its early settlers. They remained there until 1833, when, hoping to better their pecuniary condition by going to a still newer country, they came with their family to Vermilion County to try farming on its virgin soil. They selected Catlin Township as a desirable location, and thus became pioneers of the township. The father's useful career was cut short however, in a few years, and while yet in life's prime it was closed in death, August, 1839. He was a man of sound sense, a good farmer, and one whom all respected for his unswerving integrity

and kind heart. His widow survived him many years, dying in this township Dec. 30, 1869. She was a woman of true Christian piety and a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church. To her and her husband were born four sons and four daughters, our subject being the youngest son and the seventh child.

He was born near Darbysville, Pickaway Co., Ohio, Oct. 24, 1832. He was about a year old when his parents brought him to Vermilion County, and here, amid the pioneer scenes of those early days in the settlement of the county, he grew to be a stalwart, manly man. He had such schooling as could be obtained in those days of limited educational advantages when the rude log cabin was the only literary institution of this section of country, and its doors were only opened to the children of the pioneers a few short weeks in the different seasons of the year. He was bred to the life of a farmer, and has made the tilling of the land his principal occupation. He has met with more than ordinary success in his calling, and may well feel proud of what he has achieved by hard labor, directed by sound business acumen and the prudent management of his monetary affairs. His farm, comprising 440 acres of land of exceeding fertility, is well stocked and is amply provided with all the necessary appliances and machinery for making it one of the model places of the township.

Mr. Davis holds that a part of his prosperity is due to the fact that he is blessed with a good wife, who has actively co-operated with him in all his plans. They were united in marriage in Catlin Township March 10, 1859, and to them have come five children, as follows: Clara J., the wife of Willis Lesher; Van C.; one who died in infancy; Scott G.; Minnie L., the wife of David McMillin. The maiden name of Mrs. Davis was Melvina Elizabeth Hyatt, and she is the daughter of James and Martha (Rouland) Hyatt, both of whom are deceased. Her father was born in South Carolina and her mother in Kentucky, and after marriage they settled in Davis County, Ky., where he was engaged in farming, and there they died. They had seven children, four sons and three daughters. Mrs. Davis was their second child, and she was born in Davis County, Ky., Nov. 24, 1838. She grew to womanhood there, and came to Vermilion County in the month of November, 1858, with her sister, Mrs. Mary Wallace, who was an invalid. She is a genial, lovable, motherly woman, whose genuine kindness has won her a warm place in the hearts of the entire community.

When Mr. Davis was brought here in his infancy, the surrounding country presented a far different appearance from what it does to-day. Then it was a literal wilderness, savage animals and abundant game roamed over the wild, uncultivated prairies, or found shelter in the primeval forests along the water courses, and the bold, hardy frontiersman had scarcely more than begun to turn the virgin sod and lay the foundations of the wealth and prosperity that obtain to-day on all sides, as evidenced by flourishing and busy towns, smiling farms, and many happy homes. That he has had a hand in bringing about this great change may be a source of pride to our subject, who is a man of eminent public spirit, and has generously contributed of his means to further all enterprises that will in any way add to the prosperity of the community with whose interests his own are identical, and among whose people he has lived in peace and friendship for more than half a century. He is a man of high moral character, and is gifted with many worthy attributes that render him respected of all men. In his political views he strongly favors the Prohibition party, being himself a sound temperance man. He and his wife are worthy members of the Presbyterian Church, she having been a communicant ever since she was thirteen years old.

CAPT. JOSEPH TRUAX. Oakwood Township contains no more active or energetic business man than Capt. Truax, who is in the prime of life and in the midst of a prosperous career. The opening years of his life were spent in Muskingum County, Ohio, where he was born July 25, 1838, being the eighth in a family of nine children, the offspring of Joseph, Jr., and Nancy (Robison) Truax, who were both natives of Pennsylvania, the father born in Bedford County, May 16, 1800, and the mother March 15, 1801. The

paternal grandfather, Joseph Truax, Sr., was likewise a native of the Keystone State and of German descent. He entered the Revolutionary Army at the beginning of the war and served on the side of the colonists until its close. His wife was a Miss Stillwell, a native of his own State, where they settled and died. Their family consisted of four sons and two daughters, all of whom are deceased.

The mother of our subject was the daughter of James and Ellen Robison, both of whom were natives of Dublin, Ireland. Grandfather Robison was a very prominent Knight Templar of Dublin, and our subject has in his possession a demit once belonging to the old gentleman and signed 107 years ago.

The parents of our subject were married in Pennsylvania and remained there until 1839. Then removing to Ohio they settled on a farm in Muskingum County where they lived until the fall of 1854, then took up their line of march for Illinois. Coming to this county they settled two miles east of Pilot Grove, and in 1859 removed to Blount Township, where the father died March 7, 1861. The mother passed away Jan. 4, 1885. Seven of their nine children lived to mature years and three are still living.

Our subject, upon coming to this county, had a fine young horse which he sold and devoted the proceeds to advance his education, attending school in Danville, where he closely applied himself to his studies for some eighteen months. In 1859 he began teaching at Collison's Point and remained there through the fall and winter until spring. In the latter part of 1860 he commenced teaching at Craig's schoolhouse, and in the winter taught in the old Union Church building at Blue Corner. On the 3d of July, 1861, the Civil War having broken out, he entered the Union Army as a member of Company I, 35th Illinois Infantry, being mustered in as First Lieutenant, Aug. 24, 1861 at St. Louis.

The 35th Illinois saw much hard service. They were first ordered to Jefferson City, thence to Sedalia, Mo., and from there started south on the lookout for the rebel General Price. They marched 120 miles to Springfield, and from there to Rolla, a like distance. Lieut. Truax was here seized with illness and sent home on a two month's furlough. He returned to his regiment in February, 1862, and was placed in command of a detachment of seventy men, with which he repaired to Springfield still after Gen. Price. Later he was detailed with his command to remain and guard the city. After the battle of Pea Ridge he rejoined his regiment on the road to Batesville, Ark., but at this place they were ordered to Cape Girardeau, a distance of 250 miles, which distance they covered in nine days, taking one day to rest, making ten in all. On account of walking without shoes the feet of many of the men were sore and bleeding. At Cape Girardeau they were paid their monthly stipend by Maj. McKibben, an old resident of this county.

Lieut. Truax, with his regiment, now boarded the transport "Sunshine" and proceeded to Cairo, and from there up the Ohio to the mouth of the Tennessee, and thence to the old battle-ground of Pittsburg Landing. Here they joined the army of Gen. Halleck and moved toward Corinth from the east, witnessing the burning of the city. From there they marched to Clear Springs and spent July 4 near Jacinto, Miss. Later they were placed on guard at Bear Creek Bridge, near Iuka. Then the division to which the 35th Regiment belonged cut loose and crossed the Tennessee at Mussel Shoals, marching through the enemy's country and joining Buell's army at Murfreesboro.

Our subject and his command now started after the rebel General, Bragg, reaching Louisville before him and followed him on his retreat to Perryville, to Crab Orchard and to Nashville, Tenn. Afterward, succeeded the battle of Murfreesboro, and the regiment then entered upon the Chickamauga campaign. Subsequently followed the two day's battle of Chickamauga when they fell back to Chattanooga, and the November following charged upon Mission Ridge driving the enemy before them and capturing the place. Their next business was to relieve Gen. Burnside at Knoxville, to which they hurried on a forced march, and later they proceeded to Strawberry Plains and to Loudon, Tenn., where they built a bridge in the spring of 1864.

The 35th Regiment was then ordered to the vicinity of Cleveland, Tenn., where they prepared to

join Sherman's Army on its march to the sea, and Lieut. Truax was with his regiment in every battle and skirmish in which it afterward participated. In 1862 he was rewarded for his bravery and fidelity to duty by promotion to a Captaincy, receiving his commission at Crab Orchard, and with his regiment at his expiration of term of enlistment, was relieved from duty on the 28th of August, 1864, and was mustered out at Springfield in September following.

After retiring from the army Capt. Truax first took his mother to Ohio, then came back and resumed teaching in the same old Union Church building south of Oakwood. On the 19th of March, 1865, he was married to Miss Mary E. Helmick, and settled on a farm one and one-half miles west of Oakwood, where they lived until the fall of 1884. He then bought out the firm of Stillwell & Young, general merchants, and has since been in trade, besides handling grain quite extensively. He owns the entire block in which his store is located, and has also a good residence in the northern part of the city.

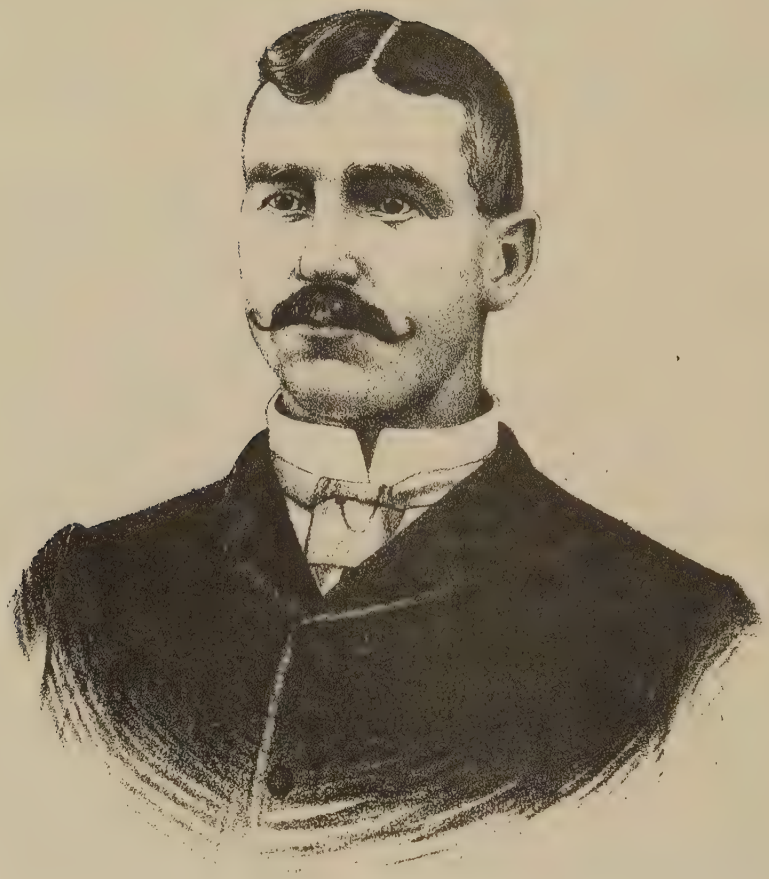
Capt. Truax takes an active part in politics and votes the straight Republican ticket. He has served as School Trustee for twenty years, Justice of the Peace four years, and Commissioner of Highways two terms. Both he and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which the Captain became identified in 1866, and in which he has served as Steward and Trustee. Socially, he belongs to Oakwood Lodge No. 564, I. O. O. F., in which he has occupied all the offices from Warden to Past Grand. He is also identified with George Morrison Post, G. A. R. The Captain and his estimable lady are the parents of five children, one of whom, Nancy B., who was born Dec. 21, 1868, died Jan. 20, 1869; Frances E. was born Feb. 10, 1866; Ruberta A., April 1, 1867; Charles E., Aug. 9, 1872, and Josephine, March 24, 1876.

Rev. Eli Helmick, the father of Mrs. Truax, was born in Randolph County, Va., May 4, 1800, and her mother, May 25, 1804. After marriage they resided in the Old Dominion for awhile, then about 1832 came to this county. He was an ordained minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a man of fine abilities, good judgment and great perseverance, and was of essential service in the Master's vineyard. After the death of his first wife, Mrs. Rachel (Villers) Helmick, the mother of Mrs. Truax, he was married to Miss Amanda Oakwood, who died about 1874. Mr. Helmick departed this life July 18, 1887, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Of his first marriage there were born nine children, of whom Mrs. Truax was the sixth. Her birth took place in Vermilion County, Ill., Nov. 21, 1835.

JOHN J. PARTLOW. The neat and well-regulated home of this gentleman lies adjacent to the city of Danville, and embraces twenty-six acres of land, which is in a high state of cultivation, and devoted to the raising of small fruits. Upon it the proprietor has erected a fine residence, and each year adds something to the beauty and value of the property. Mr. Partlow is numbered among the steady-going and reliable citizens of this county—one who without making a great deal of stir in the world has fulfilled his obligations to his family and society in a praiseworthy manner, and deserves more than a passing notice.

A native of this county, our subject was born in Middle Fork Township, Aug. 7, 1832, and is the son of James Partlow, who was born in Virginia, and was the son of Samuel Partlow, to whom further reference is made in the sketch of Asa Partlow, on another page in this volume. James Partlow was reared in Kentucky, and learned the trade of a wheelwright in his youth, which he followed in the Blue Grass regions until 1831. That year he came to Illinois, overland with a team, accompanied by his family and traveling after the primtive fashion of those days—carrying with him his household goods, and camping and cooking by the wayside.

The father of our subject upon his arrival in this county took up a claim of Government land before it had come into the market. Indians were still to be seen prowling over the country, while deer, wild turky and wolves were also plentiful. The land which Mr. Partlow selected was part timber and part prairie. He put up a rail pen for the tempor-



Hiers. B. Cauble M.D.

ary shelter of his family, and afterward built a log house, in which structure the subject of this sketch was born. The chimney of this primitive dwelling was made of earth and sticks outside, the floor was laid of split puncheon, and the roof covered with clapbords. It was before the time of railroads, and the nearest market was at the towns on the Wabash River. James Partlow here spent the remainder of his days, passing away about the year 1854. He had lived to see the wilderness around him transformed into smiling grain fields and comfortable homes, and himself put up a third dwelling, in the shape of a commodious frame house. This latest structure was built prior to the construction of the railroad through this part of the county, and the doors for it were hauled from Chicago. The weather-boarding was sawed from black-walnut logs which Mr. Partlow drew to the mill. He brought his farm to a good state of cultivation, and in his last years was surrounded by all the comforts of life.

Mrs. Ellen (Milton) Partlow, the mother of our subject, was born in Kentucky, and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Dr. Humphrey, of Danville, about 1855. Both she and her husband had been twice married. John J., our subject, pursued his first lessons in a log school-house, into which light was admitted through greased paper stretched along an aperture from which one of the logs had been sawed away. He was at an early age trained to habits of industry, and as soon as large enough his services were utilized in the labors of the farm. At the age of fourteen he was employed in a drug store two years, but later attended Georgetown Academy and the Red Seminary in Danville. Later he officiated as clerk in the dry-goods store of E. V. & P. Leshure three years. Subsequently he became the employe of Partlow & Humphrey, with whom he remained one year. At the expiration of this time he associated himself in partnership with R. A. Short, and they engaged in mercantile business together two years, when our subject purchased the interest of his partner in the business, and conducted it twelve years. At this point, abandoning merchandising, Mr. Partlow entered the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company, with whom he continued two years, and was then appointed a Railway Mail Clerk on the same road, running first from Chicago to Danville, and later from Chicago to Terre Haute, Ind. He performed in this manner faithful and efficient service for a period of eleven years, and in 1884 invested a portion of his earnings in his present property.

Miss Frances L. Giddings, the eldest child of William and Caroline (Kitchener) Giddings, became the wife of our subject Nov. 5, 1857. Of this union there have been born two children, the eldest of whom, Elmer E., married Miss Mattie Collins, and is the father of a son and two daughters—George E., Vera and Frances. The younger son, Charles, is a printer by trade, and makes his home with his parents. Mr. Partlow, politically, is a stanch Republican, and with his estimable wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

WILLIS B. CAUBLE, Physician and Surgeon. Among the truly successful professional men of this county is the young man whose name initiates this sketch. He came to Sidell right after his graduation from Rush Medical College, of Chicago, through the urgent request of some of the leading citizens of this enterprising village. Naturally gifted to fill his responsible position of ministering to the health of his fellowmen, and after a long and studious course in the intricacies of his profession at different places, he is well equipped to meet the expectations of his friends.

Dr. Cauble was born at Alto Pass, Union Co., Ill., where his father is a large land owner and one of the wealthiest and most prominent men of his county. Willis C. and Serena, father and mother of the subject of this sketch are leading people in society in Union County, the native place of the former. The grandfather of Willis Jr., John F. Cauble, was born in North Carolina, where he was an extensive land owner. He subsequently came to Illinois, where he acquired large tracts of land also. His son, Willis Sr., being the only heir and a good business man, became the owner of the

large property left by his father, and he afterward engaged in the erection of a sawmill and grist-mill, shipping lumber and flour to St. Louis and is now very extensively engaged in growing fruits and vegetables. He owns three large farms, one of them being two miles and three-quarters long. The parents of Willis Jr., had nine children, five of whom are living, namely: Willis Benton, Cora E., Adam J., Flora M., and Myrtle A.

Dr. Cauble passed his childhood days in rural life with his parents and in his early boyhood attended the district schools. Later on he entered St. Vincent College at Cape Girardeau, Mo., from which institution he graduated with distinguished honors in the class of 1885, in the scientific course. While studying at college, he became imbued with the idea that the medical profession was one which would suit his inclinations and he therefore chose that for his life work. He studied under the direction of Dr. W. W. Esick of Murphysboro, Ill., for one year, and in the fall of 1887 entered the medical department of the University of Tennessee at Nashville, there prosecuting his studies for one year. From there he proceeded to Louisville, Ky., and attended for six months the summer lectures at the Medical and Surgical Institute of that city. He graduated from those two courses, when he returned to Murphysboro and began practice under his old preceptor which he continued for two months. In the fall of 1887 he entered Rush Medical College, graduating in Feb. 1888. His thesis on "Typhoid Fever and Death from Uremic Poisoning," was delivered before the faculty and won the prize, and was also pronounced by Prof. Ross as one of the ablest productions of any student of Rush College, while a letter was written by Dr. Ross to Dr. Cauble's preceptor, filled with commendatory language.

Dr. Cauble was born April 24, 1866 and is one of the youngest medical men of the State and the youngest practitioner in Vermilion County. He seems intent upon reaching the highest round in the ladder of his profession, and never wearies in studying and writing upon subjects connected with his noble calling. He is especially proficient in the subject of the diseases of women and children. The citizens of Sidell may well congratulate themselves upon the acquisition of a physician of such marked ability.

The Doctor is a member of the Catholic Church and votes with the Democratic party. He was appointed County Physician of the district including Sidell, and is also the examining physician of the Aetna Life Insurance Company of Hartford, and he fills a similar position for other insurance companies. It is his intention to go to Vienna in three or four years and there take instruction under the celebrated German medical professors. There is a great future in store for Dr. Cauble.

HARRY L. FREEMAN, junior partner in the firm of John Jackson & Co., dealers in general merchandise at Sidell, although young in years, occupies no secondary position among the business interests of this thriving village. He is bright, capable and energetic, and is universally popular among the people who have known him almost since his boyhood. He was born in Fairmount, this county, and is the son of Alfred C. and Mary W. (Dustin) Freeman, the former a native of Washington County, Pa., and the latter of St. Johnsbury, Vt. Mrs. Freeman was a direct descendant of Hannah Dustin, one of the most notable and heroic women of her time—the old Puritan days.

The parents of our subject came to Illinois prior to their marriage, Mr. Freeman settling in Edgar County, and Miss Dustin with her parents in this county. They were married at Fairmount. The father was reared to farming pursuits, but finally changing his occupation, became station agent of the Wabash Railroad at Fairmount, and served in that capacity satisfactorily several years. Finally in 1868, he changed his residence to Danville, and has been city clerk there for the last sixteen or eighteen years. During this time he has made many warm friends, having performed the duties of his office in an admirable manner, and possessing the good judgment and discretion which is so essential to every individual occupying a position of trust and responsibility. The wife and mother

William G. Hewson

is still living, and is now about fifty years of age. Their family consisted of five children, who were named respectively Harry L., Fred D., Bert D., Nettie J., and Edmund G.

The subject of this notice was born Sept. 8, 1865. He attended school at Danville during his boyhood and youth, and received careful parental training. When of suitable years and attainments he launched out in life for himself, and at the early age of seventeen years became Deputy Assessor and Collector of Danville Township, which position he held for nine years. Shortly after reaching the twentieth year of his age he was married, Dec. 2, 1885, to Miss Jennie W. Jackson, daughter of Amos Jackson, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume.

Mrs. Freeman was born in Indianola, this county, Dec. 3, 1865, where she was reared to womanhood. Of her union with our subject there was one child, Anna J., born Sept. 6, 1887, died Nov. 13, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman removed to Sidell in July, 1888, in which time our subject became a member of the firm above-mentioned. They occupy a neat and tasteful dwelling in the southern part of the city, and number their friends among its best people. Mr. Freeman votes the Republican ticket, and socially, belongs to the Modern Woodmen. He has started out in life with fair prospects, and has the wishes of hosts of friends for his continued prosperity.

WILLIAM G. HERRON is the most extensive farmer in Vermilion County, having 3,800 acres under his immediate supervision, all of which is in a highly improved state of cultivation. The firm of Allerton & Herron was established in 1880, when Sam W. Allerton, of Chicago, purchased this extensive tract of land, from J. G. Clark, of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, who foreclosed the mortgage on the celebrated Joseph Sullivan farm, which was called by the earlier settlers "Twin Grove."

Two groves of about 100 acres each on this tract of land looked so much alike that the people gave the farm the name quoted above. Michael Sullivan was made trustee of the Sterling estate in Kentucky and Ohio, by reason of his son Joseph being one of the heirs. The father invested the funds thus inherited in lands, purchasing them at their regular government price, immediately upon the reopening of the land office after the Illinois Central Railroad's time for choosing its lands in the State of Illinois had expired. This period extended from 1849 to 1852.

William G. Herron was born in Madison County, Ohio, near London. He remained on a farm until he was twenty years old, and there learned his early lessons of industry. His father, Gardner Herron, and his mother, Maria (Moraine) Herron, were born in Dorchester County, Md. His father was a soldier in the War of 1812, and at the age of twenty-two he removed to Ohio. His mother was brought to Madison County when she was four years of age. His father and a brother and sister were left orphans; the sister married and died when sixty years of age. Gardner Herron was a man of moderate circumstances, owning his farm in Madison County where he died, which event occurred in 1855. His wife is still living with a daughter at Mahomet, Ill. This worthy couple had ten children, of whom four boys and three girls grew to maturity; the others died in infancy.

William G. Herron was born April 6, 1829. His educational advantages were exceedingly limited. He was the oldest child of the family, and of course was expected to take an important part in carrying on the farm. In 1851 he left Ohio in the employ of a stockman. On his first visit to Illinois, which was at the time indicated, his impressions were not favorable to his location in this county, for at the time he remarked he would not give ten cents an acre for any of the land. So he continued in the occupation of drover, proceeding backward and forward from Ohio on horseback and in a buggy, driving many cattle from Illinois to Ohio and Pennsylvania. He became very well acquainted on the National Road, so that he knew almost every one located on that thoroughfare. He was married in 1855 to Miss Evelyn Robison, a native of Madison County, Ohio, and the same year he settled in Piatt County, Ill. His wife is the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Lane) Robison, the former of

whom was one of the early settlers of Madison County. He was born in South Carolina, while Mrs. Robison was a native of Maryland. They came of good Revolutionary stock. The Robison family was a leading one in the South, while the Lanes were prominent in colonial times.

After marriage Mr. Herron engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1860, when he bought into a general merchandise business at Monticello, Ill., continuing in this with varied results for several years. He and S. W. Allerton became acquainted in Chicago in 1860. Fortune had favored Mr. Allerton, and in 1881, when he purchased this vast farm, he offered his friend an opportunity that was embraced, giving Mr. Herron the entire management of the place.

The firm of Allerton & Herron was therefore formed, and it has been a successful business venture from the start. The influence of this firm induced the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad to forward its work, and Mr. Allerton donated the right of way through his land and laid out the village plat of Allerton which is yet in its infancy, but on account of its fine location is destined to become a good point for shipping grain, cattle and horses. General trade is a so bound to prosper here, and the people of the town have great faith that their hopes will be fully realized. The large steam elevator was put up by Mr. Allerton in 1887, and is operated by John H. Herron, our subject's son, and is run in the firm name of Allerton & Herron. Mr. Herron gives employment to about twenty-five men, and runs from sixty to seventy teams. He is following general or mixed farming, and is constantly improving his large farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Herron have reared nine children: Fannie died when she was twenty-one years of age, at the time being a student at the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill.; Emma was married June 26, 1889, to Prof. F. W. Martin, of Chaddock College, Quincy, Ill. She is one of the faculty at Chaddock College. She is a graduate of the Wesleyan University and is a Master of Arts and Professor of Greek and Latin; David W. is on a ranch at Cedar Rapids, Neb., where he is conducting a 7,000-acre farm for Allerton. He is married and has two children; William H. is connected with the United States Geological Survey, and has charge of the survey in Kansas; John H. is running the steam elevator at Allerton; Una is a student at Chaddock College in the class of '90; Edwin is attending the High School at Mahomet; Clyde is at home as is also Ralph, who is attending school. Mr. Herron has given all of his children the benefit of good educational advantages, and they have improved them.

Mr. Herron is an uncomprising and stalwart Republican and attends most of the conventions his party holds. He has served as a member of the Executive commitee and is President of the Republican Club of Sidell. He has been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church from boyhood up. He has given large sums to the Wesleyan University. He and his wife have been members of the Broadland Methodist Episcopal Church for many years, where they take great interest in the Sunday-school. Mr. Herron was Superintendent of the Sabbath-school at Monticello, Ill., for eighteen years, and in this work he is perhaps better known than in any other, as he began active operations in the Sunday-schools thirty years ago, and has continued in the work without flagging during that long period. He assisted in the formation of most of the Sunday-schools of Piatt and Champaign counties, and also of the southern portion of Vermilion. In all things he is a leader, whether in politics or religion. As a man and as a neighbor, there is none who stands higher than William G. Herron.

On another page of the ALBUM appears a fine portrait of Mr. Herron, who occupies a prominent position among his fellow-men, and is accordingly worthy of an important place in a book of this character.

ORIN SPERRY represents the agricultural interests of Blount Township as a farmer of more than ordinary shrewdness and practical ability. He has met with marked success in his chosen calling, and has a large farm on section 20, which by good management he has made one of the most valuable estates in this part of Vermilion County. Mr. Sperry is the son of a pioneer fam-

ily, was reared here from early childhood, and has always made his home here.

Mr. Sperry is of New England ancestry on his father's side, and that parent, whose name was Wallace Sperry, was born in the good old State of Connecticut. Sarah Watkins, the mother of our subject, came of Southern parentage, and she was born in Maryland. During some period in their lives the parents went to Ohio, in the early days of its settlement, and there he was born in Warren County Sept. 4, 1828, the sixth of nine children. When he was but two years old, in 1830, they brought him to this State, and in their new pioneer home in Blount Township he was reared to a stalwart, vigorous manhood. He gleaned a practical education in the district schools, and his parents trained him thoroughly in the duties of life, drilling him well in all that pertains to a farmer's calling. When he became independent, after reaching man's estate, he bought a Mexican land warrant, paying $150 for 160 acres of land, which he took up on section 20, Blount Township, and still retains it in his possession. But he has added to it as he became more prosperous and wealthy, and now owns 509 acres of as fine farming land as is to be found within the limits of the county. He has it under admirable tillage, and has a comfortable, substantial set of buildings, and everything necessary to carrying on agriculture to the best advantage.

Mr. Sperry has been twice married. He was first wedded Sept. 23, 1852, to Mary Stewart, daughter of William and Charlotte Stewart, who at that time lived in Scotland, but afterward came to this county. Of that marriage nine children were born, of whom the following four are living: Eli S., who married Sueldo Johnson; Demna, who married Wesley Smith; Asa and Eben are yet unmarried. The others, who died when quite young, are William A., Charles F., Clarissa J., George M., and Jessie G. Aug. 30, 1883, the household of our subject was bereft of the beloved wife and mother, who had been devoted to the interests of her family, and was in every respect a true woman whom to know was to respect.

Mr. Sperry was married to his present amiable wife Oct. 11, 1888. She is a good housewife and looks carefully after the comforts of the inmates of the pleasant home over which she presides. Her maiden name was Ellen Cozatt, and she is a daughter of Henry and Nancy Wood, and widow of Perry C. Cozatt.

Mr. Sherry is a man of sterling worth, one in whom his fellow-citizens place the utmost confidence. He possesses foresight, thrift and sound discretion in an eminent degree, and they have been factors in his prosperity. In him the United Brethren Church finds one of its most earnest and valued members, who carries his religion into the every day affairs of life. In politics he has been a stanch Republican since the early days of the formation of the party.

MICHAEL McCAUL. There are many greater men than their garb would indicate. We find in the person of this gentleman a classical scholar who pursued his youthful studies with the intention of becoming a priest, but untoward circumstances compelled him to leave college and engage in manual labor. This necessarily changed the whole course of his life and we now find him a thorough-going farmer, who in company with his brother owns 120 acres of land on sections 1 and 6 in Sidell Township.

Probably Mr. McCaul is the only man in his township who has circumnavigated the globe. After leaving college his mother was unwilling to have him come to America on account of the Civil War, so he went to Australia. He was born in County Cavan, Ireland, in August, 1844, and pursued his early studies in the common schools until the age of fifteen years, when he entered the Larrah Classical School in the same county, where he pursued his studies for three years and then his lack of finances compelled him to withdraw. In setting out for Australia, he was accompanied by his brother, Bernard. They sailed around the coast of Africa, doubled Cape Hope and arrived at Morton Bay Colony, Queensland, where they became employed on the public works, principally railroads for five years.

At the expiration of this time the McCaul brothers determined to come to America and set

sail from Melbourne, going up through the Pacific, doubling Cape Horn and landing in Liverpool, whence they embarked on a steamer to the promised land. They arrived in New York in the early part of November, 1867, and thence made their way to Marshall County, this State, where they began farming together and operated thus several years.

Our subject finally removed to Woodford County, where he sojourned a few years, then changing his residence to Champaign County, from which he came, in 1880, with his brother to his present farm. They took out their naturalization papers in 1884. Mr. McCaul believes in protection to American industries and consequently has identified himself with the Republican party. He is in full sympathy with the cause of Ireland and a warm admirer of Patrick Egan, Patrick Ford and other who are endeavoring to free their country from the oppressions of British rule. He has signified his sympathy in a substantial manner, donating liberally of his means.

The parents of our subject were Bernard and Mary (McEntee) McCaul, natives of County Cavan, Ireland, and the father was a farmer by occupation. They spent their entire lives upon their native soil, each living to be sixty-three years old. Their five children were named respectively, Ann, Edward, Patrick, Bernard, and Michael. Ann is the widow of John Reiley and resides in Sidell Township; Edward and Patrick remain in their native Ireland. Bernard married Miss Mary Gulcheon, a native, like himself of County Cavan, and they have three children—Mary, Bernard, and Maggie. Michael, our subject, continues in a state of single blessedness.

FRANKLIN EMMET ABBOTT, well-known as one of the most enterprising of the younger farmers of Grant Township, was born in Brown County, Ohio, Sept. 12, 1859, and came to Illinois with his parents when but six years of age. His parents were Wilson and Sarah J. (Brown) Abbott, who were natives of Ohio and after their removal to Illinois, coming direct to Vermilion County, they settled on a farm on section 22 in this same township a short distance from where Franklin E. now resides.

There the family lived for about three years when they removed to a rented farm a short distance off, and a year later Mr. Abbott bought a 40-acre farm on which the family made their home for many years, and on which place Wilson Abbott died on Feb. 14, 1883 at the age of fifty-two. He was a farmer all his life-time, giving his entire time and attention to the work pertaining to his farm, and having no desire for notoriety, as far as possible avoided public position, never holding any office, save such as school director, or the like, that he could not evade. He was known as one of the older settlers of the township, which was comparatively new when he located here, a quarter of a century ago. He left behind him a splendid record as a man and as a farmer. Mrs. Sarah J. Abbott survived her husband nearly four years, dying in the house of her son, Franklin E., on Dec. 16, 1886, aged fifty-two years.

Wilson Abbott and wife were the parents of eight children, of whom seven are yet living as follows: Frances Evelyn, is the wife of Martin Davis, a farmer in Grant Township; James L., is married to Miss Maggie Schoolcraft, and is also a farmer in Grant Township; Franklin E., was next in order of birth; Isodora Albertine is the wife of William Trueheart, a farmer in Mead County, Kan.; Mary Luella and Cyrena Belle, make their home with their brother of whom this is written, and Charles L. is unmarried and engaged in farm work.

Franklin E. Abbott, the subject of this sketch, has spent his entire life in the county and township, where he now lives, since he was six years old. Two or three years after the death of his father, the old farm was sold and the family home has since been where Franklin now lives. The elder members of the family were justly regarded as the very best people in the neighborhood for industry, intelligence and straightforward conduct, and the younger members are closely following the footsteps of their parents. Mr. Abbott is unmarried, his sisters keeping house for him. He has been School Director of the township, and all of the family are members of the Christian Church, he

being treasurer of the Sabbath-school connected therewith.

Mr. Abbott belongs to that younger element of of farmers of Illinois, which is rapidly coming to the front, and after attaining that position is sure to remain there. He is constructed of the material that make a useful citizen and a good farmer.

JOHN E. THOMPSON. The people of Oakwood Township with one accord declare that this is "one of the finest old gentlemen within its precincts." This kindly expression of opinion among those who have known him long and well, should in a measure compensate him for the affliction from which he is suffering, he having become almost blind and passing many days which seem long and dreary. He, however, has a mind to direct his farming operations, and is enabled to live comfortably upon his little farm of eighty acres, besides which he has eight acres of timber. He raises as much stock as the place will support comfortably, and in his struggles and labors has been ably assisted by his estimable wife—a lady possessing all the womanly virtues, devoted to her family, remarkably industrious and frugal, and who has ordered the ways of her household in the most admirable manner.

The subject of this notice is the offspring of an excellent old family, and was one of a pair of twins born March 5, 1824, in Clark County, Ohio. His boyhood days were spent in his native State, where he received a practical education in the common school, and when reaching his majority began farming for himself. When twenty-five years old he was married in 1849, to Miss Sarah E. Simpkins, and the young people lived thereafter for three years at the Thompson homestead. In 1852 they came to Illinois and settled first in Edgar County, where they sojourned five years. Their next removal was to their present farm, which was then merely a tract of wild land with not a stick of timber or a shrub upon it.

Our subject set himself industriously to work for the improvement of his property ably assisted by his faithful wife, and making each year some headway toward the desired end. After a lapse of years six children were embraced in the family household, four of whom are living: Rowena Harriet is now the wife of Silas Bean, and the mother of one child by her present husband; they live in Hodgeman County, Kan. By her first marriage with Frank Funk she became the mother of four children; John Henry married Miss Emma Royer; they live in Kansas City, Mo., and have two children; Darius S. is unmarried, and has principal charge of the home farm, and is a member of Lodge No. 489, I. O. O. F.; Charles S. married Miss Rebecca Hubbard, and lives in Pilot Township, having no children.

Mr. Thompson cast his first Presidential vote for Zachary Taylor, and was a member of the Old Whig party until 1856, when he cast his lot with the Republicans at the organization of this party. He has officiated as Road Overseer in Edgar County, and has been School Director in his present district for eight years. Socially, he belongs to Lodge No. 489 I. O. O. F. at Fithian, in which he has been Right Supporter and Outside Guardian. Mrs. Thompson is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Her parents were D. S. and Rowena Simpkins, the former of whom was a native of Maryland, and later removed with his family to Ohio, settling in Clark County, where he became prominent and well-to-do. The parental household included eight children, of whom Mrs. Thompson was the fourth in order of birth. She was born Nov. 6, 1828, in Maryland, and received an excellent education. Her parents spent their last years in Clark County, Ohio.

The father of our subject was Jeremiah C. Thompson, a native of Harper's Ferry, Va., and a farmer by occupation. He married Miss Susannah Wolfe, a maiden of his own township and a daughter of Henry Wolfe, a native of Virginia and a prominent man of his time, who lived till nearly eighty years of age. From the Old Dominion, about a year after their marriage, the parents of our subject emigrated to Clark County, Ohio, settling among its earliest pioneers. The father in due time became owner of nearly 400 acres of land and was prominent in the community, officiating as Justice of the Peace and occupying other positions

of trust and responsibility. He departed this life at the old homestead in 1851. The mother had preceded her husband to the silent land eleven years, her death taking place in 1840. They were the parents of eleven children, the most of whom lived to mature years, and were scattered through different States.

WILLIAM CLIPSON, deceased, was formerly an honored resident of Vermilion County, with whose farming interests he was identified. Coming here with his family when this section of the country was still in the hands of the pioneers and purchasing land in Catlin Township, he was actively engaged in its improvement, and in the few years that he was spared to the community he greatly increased the value of his farm. His death when but a few years past the meridian of life was a severe blow to the township with whose interests his own were bound up, and his name and memory are still cherished here by those who knew him best.

He was of English birth and breeding, born in Lincolnshire, May 18, 1806, and reared to manhood in a town known as Minonsby, where he lived till he was about eighteen years old, when he went to Devonshire, England. He was first married in that shire to Jane Shaw, by whom he had eight children, of whom only two lived to grow up, Catherine and Jane. Catherine is the wife of Milligan M. Moore, of Georgetown, Ill. Jane married John Swanell, and died in Leavenworth, Kan., in 1859. After his marriage Mr. Clipson removed to London, and there his wife died July 1, 1839. While in Devonshire he enlisted as a soldier in the British Army, and served as messman to King William. After his removal to London he served on the police force of that city, and was afterward inspector for the London Gas Company for some ten or twelve years, and at the same time was engaged in the management of a hotel. He was married a second time in that city, his union with Miss Matilda Ann Barker being solemnized Nov. 5, 1840. She was born in Boston, Lincolnshire, England, Dec. 22, 1815. Of the thirteen children born of her marriage with our subject the following six grew to maturity: William H., John C., James, Harriet A., Richard, Albert. William married Mirantha Tipton, and they reside in Clarinda, Iowa. John C. married Margaret Hutchinson, and they reside in Clarinda, Iowa. James married Clarissa Douglas, and they reside in Catlin Township. Albert married Ethlen Sanford, and they reside in Catlin Township. Harriet and Richard live with their mother on the old homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. Clipson continued to live in London till the spring of 1853, when they emigrated to America with their family, making the voyage on a sailing vessel in six weeks, and landed in New York, whence they came directly to Vermilion County. They settled in Catlin Township, casting in their lot with its pioneers, and here he engaged in farming, having purchased 160 acres of wild land. He caused a good house to be erected, and made many other substantial improvements, besides getting much of the land under excellent cultivation, and was continually increasing the value of his farm, when death closed his busy, useful career July 6, 1862. He was a man of varied experience in life; intelligent and thoughtful, and his place in this township was among its best and most desirable citizens. He was a fair-minded man, and was possessed of ripe judgment, tact and sound discretion, and was always found to be faithful and trustworthy in his dealings, so that his life-record is without stain. His venerable widow is still making her home on the old homestead, surrounded by all the comforts that the loving care of her children can devise. She is a fine lady of well-known English stock, is hospitable and entertaining, and with her family occupies a high position in the social circles of the community. She is a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has been connected with it for more than twenty years, and her conduct in the daily affairs of life show her to be possessed of a truly religious, Christian nature.

Richard and Albert Clipson, sons of our subject, have formed a partnership and are extensively engaged in the stock business. Besides having the management of the old homestead, they own and operate 360 acres of choice farming land. They

buy and ship a large amount of stock, having several men in their employ who are engaged all the time in buying for them. The firm is well-known throughout this part of the West and stands high in financial circles, as the Clipson Bros. are known to be men of honor who are always fair and upright in their dealings. They are men of large enterprise, full of energy and push, and possess a marked talent for business, which they conduct systematically and after the most approved methods. Richard Clipson is a member of the I. O. O. F., of Catlin, and Albert belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp of Catlin.

HUGH WRIGHT is the son of William, whose father, Hugh, was a native of Bourbon Co., Ky., where he married Miss Anna Patterson. After their marriage they removed to Bourbon County, Kentucky, where they located on a farm and reared their family of eight children, viz.: William, John, Hugh, Thomas, Margred, Polly, Peggy, and our subject's father, William. The four eldest died at an early age; Margred, the fifth child, married a Mr. Piper, who is now deceased, after which she was again married to Eli Current, of Kentucky, who also died. She, however, continued to live in Kentucky. Polly and her husband, Mr. Piper, both died leaving two children; Peggy, the seventh, married James Looman, who died. She now resides in Kansas. The subject's father, the eighth and last born, was married in Kentucky, to Miss Ellen, daughter of Silas and Margaret (Duffy) Waters.

The subject's grandfather was a native of Virginia but removed to Kentucky when the children were young. In 1828 Hugh's father with his family came to this county; there were at this time but three children, Hugh, Silas and James. The latter was born in Rush County, Ind., where the parents lived one year previous to coming here. Those born here are John A., William A., now deceased, Margaret A., who died at the age of eighteen years, and Elizabeth, who married John Rutledge. Since her husband's death Mrs. Rutledge has lived in McLean County. The first settlement made here by the father was some three miles north of Danville. At the time of his location here there were but three white families in the village, this part of the county being chiefly occupied by Indians. The land had not yet come into market; he, however, ventured to settle in the timber, and reckoned that the prairies would never become populated. The first house was made of logs, and the fireplace was concocted of a substance called stone-coal, which was supposed to be fire-proof. This, however, proved to be a mistake, for the fire was no sooner built than the stone-coal at once began to burn, and it was with difficulty that the cabin itself was saved. After considerable exertion the flames were extinguished. Immediately after this disaster what remained of the coal chimney was torn down and it was replaced by a stick and clay one.

The little log cabin was soon surrounded by a nicely cultivated farm, and later, in its stead a pretty house might be seen. There the family lived for ten years. During this time the village of Denmark, as it is now called, was started. It was a rough frontier town situated near to the house of our subject's father. On account of the many disadvantages arising from their nearness to Denmark, the father sold his farm and removed to this township, which was better suited to his taste. Here he spent his last days. His death occurred in 1845. His wife survived him by thirty-six years. She died at Farmer's City, McLean County, in 1881, her daughter being with her at the time.

Hugh Wright was married first in this county to Miss Manerva, daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Payne, who came from New York, their native city, to be pioneers in this county. Of this marriage there were six children: Margaret, America, Mary, Fannie, now Mrs. Henry Radymaker, Clarissa and Frank. Margaret and America are no longer living; Mary is now Mrs. Samuel A. Oliver, and resides in Southern Texas; Clarissa married Mr. Staunton Foster and lives in this township; Fannie and her husband are living in Armstrong. The whole family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which the father was a Class-Leader for many years. Hugh Wright's first wife

died in April, 1881. After seven years he was again married to Mrs. Stacy (Potts) Wikoff. This happy event took place in Nov. 1888. By her first husband she had three children: Thomas, Ellen and James. Wikoff is a name well remembered among the old families of Ohio.

Mr. Wright is the proprietor of a fine farm comprising 400 acres all under good cultivation. This he has made his home, adding yearly to it all the advantages and improvements that suggest themselves. An important feature in his character is his business accuracy and punctuality. These enable him at any time to command the assistance of any bank with which he does business. Besides the farm on which he lives, he is the owner of 800 acres, all fine farms, in this township. His mill has been improved and an artesian well has been supplemented to the list of conveniences on his premises.

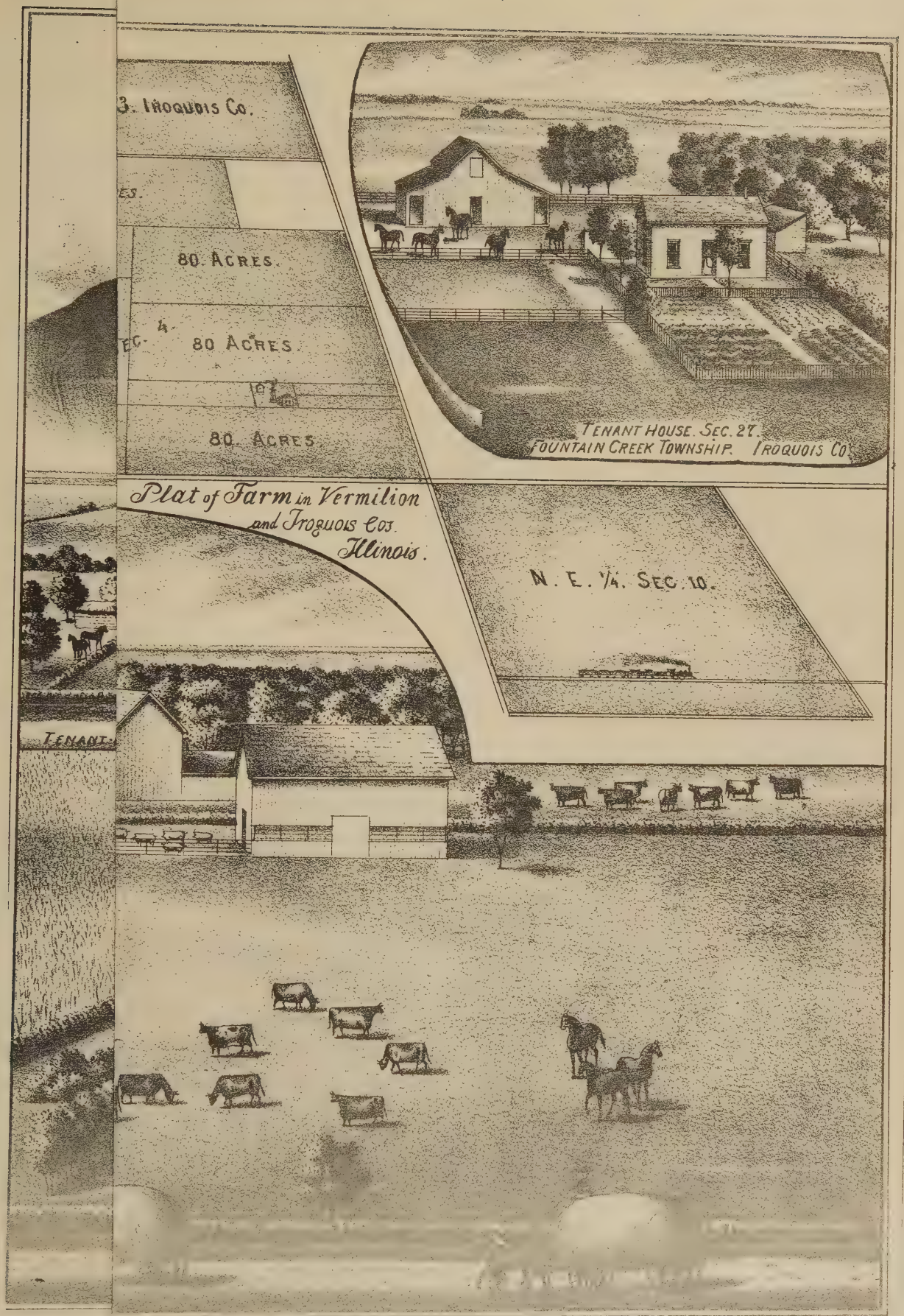
Mr. Wright's father seems to have been constitutionally destitute of fear. He was made, as it were, without that peculiar faculty which makes people take danger into the account and try to keep at a distance from it. The full possession of this deficiency (if the phrase is not too direct a contradiction in terms) is now quite uncommon. It was therefore without trepidation that he made a friend of Wapanim, the chief of an Indian tribe. They were in fact on such friendly terms that Mr. Wright did not hesitate to allow his son Hugh, who was then a child, to ride on the Indian's back through the woods. The tribe was at that time a peaceful one.

One day while talking with Mr. Wright the chief requested him to report anything that a member of his tribe might do which did not happen to meet with Mr. Wright's approbation. This request was soon to be made use of. The occasion was as follows: A stalwart Indian came to the house and threatened to harm our subject's mother for having refused to give him the eggs that he had asked for. This fact was stated to the chief, who had the Indian whipped most severely. The lash used was a stout one and was plied by a strong hand. The result was that the poor creature's skin was broken and the raw bleeding flesh exposed. Still the punishment was continued so long that fully a pint of blood must have been shed. Mr. Wright and his family were called upon to witness the scene.

This little incident is given partly to direct attention to the care and assiduity with which this exceptionally good chief guarded the interests of the white families against the barbarous injustice of his own men. Wapinim spoke English well, and for a man of his type was unusually intelligent.

Hugh Wright was seventeen years old when he got his first suit of store clothes, which he bought with the money he himself had earned by tramping out some oats with horses and hauling them to Chicago, where they sold at ten cents per bushel. Before this his clothes were such as his mother would make by means of the old spinning-wheel. He was very proud of his new apparel, which cost him $10, the price of 100 bushels of oats.

GEORGE WHEELER JONES, M. D., one of the foremost physicians of the State of Illinois, and who has a fine professional reputation beyond its borders, was born in Bath, Steuben Co., N. Y., in February, 1839. Dr. Jones' father, John S. Jones, also a physician, was born in Highland, Kings Co., N. Y., and his father, John Jones, was born in or near New York City. They were of Welsh ancestry. Dr. Jones, father of George W., commenced the study of medicine while quite a young man, and was graduated from the medical college at Albany, after which he practiced his profession in New York State until 1847, when he removed to Indiana and settled in Covington, practicing there many years. He removed from Covington to Danville, where he died in the fall of 1871, but a few months after his last removal. Dr. Jones, Sr., married Charlotte Wheeler, a native of Steuben County, N. Y. Her father, George Wheeler, was a native of Connecticut, and they trace their ancestry to England. The mother of the subject of this article still resides in Danville. There were seven children born to her: George W., James S. (deceased), Lydia, Frank and Caleb (deceased), Mary S. and Lottie E. James enlisted, at the age of eighteen, in the 63d Indiana Infantry, and was mustered in as private, but was



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rapidly promoted through different grades until he reached the rank of Quartermaster. He served until the close of the war, and is now deceased.

Dr. G. W. Jones attended the public schools in New York State and later in Covington, and finally completed his literary studies at Wabash College, and also began the study of medicine with his father and uncle Caleb Jones, at Covington. He attended several courses of lectures at a medical college in Chicago, during which time he received private instructions from Dr. Byford, of that city. In March, 1862, he was graduated, and immediately entered the army as Acting Surgeon of the 26th Illinois Regiment. After a few month's service in that capacity he was tendered a commission with the rank of Major and Surgeon of that regiment, but preferred to be with his brother in the 63d Indiana, and accepted the position of Assistant Surgeon of that regiment, where he served until the close of the war. For two years he was one of the Surgeons in charge of the field hospital of the third division of the 23d army corps. He served with Sherman in the Atlanta campaign, and also in the operations against Hood's army in Tennessee. He carries the scars of the wound received at Pumpkin Vine Creek, caused by the explosion of a shell. After being mustered out of the service in 1865 he came to Danville, and at once inaugurated a successful practice. Dr. Jones has a brilliant war record, and one of which he can justly feel proud.

The subject of this sketch was married in 1865, to Emelyn K. Enos, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and a daughter of Benjamin and Susan Enos. She is the mother of one child, Hubert W. Dr. Jones and wife are members of Holy Trinity (Episcopal) Church. Politically, the Doctor is a stanch Republican, and for many years has served as a member of the Pension Board, a position he has filled with marked ability. He is a member of the following medical societies: The Vermilion County Medical Society, The Illinois Central, Chicago Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, Mississippi Valley, and the American Medical Association. He was a delegate to the meeting of the International Medical Congress which met in Washington, D. C., in 1888, and which was composed of many of the scientific men of the world. While Dr. Jones stands at the head of his profession in his portion of the country, he is reckoned as one of the best of neighbors and citizens. The Doctor is a member of Lodge No. 69, I. O. O. F., of Danville, and also a prominent Mason, officiating with Oriental Consistory of Chicago, and several other secret societies.

JOHN LEEMON. The man who has flowing through his veins the blood of an honorable ancestry has occasion for being proud, for he has thus been endowed with that which is better than silver and gold. If he has likewise been endowed with the wisdom to improve his talent, he is doubly fortunate, for no matter what circumstances surround him, he is usually able to fight his way resolutely to success. Some men are met with seemingly more than their share of adversity, while the course of others is comparatively smooth, but in either event men usually have about all they wish to contend with of trouble and toil. Those who have succeeded in breasting the waves are naturally looked up to by their fellow-men, among whom they become captains and leaders.

The subject of this notice presents a fine illustration of the results of perseverance, and what man may accomplish from a very humble beginning. Commencing in life without other resources than his own energy and resolution, he climbed his way steadily upward until he is now a man of property and importance, owning one of the finest farms in Central Illinois. This comprises 1,080 acres in one body, occupying the greater portions of sections 4 and 10, township 23, range 12, the residence being on 4, and the balance in Iroquois County on the north, in township 24, range 12 In Fountain Creek he has 520 acres, and 120 acres near East Lynn. In Scott and Christian counties he has an interest in 1,785 acres. The home farm, which has naturally been under the especial oversight of the proprietor, has been brought to a high state of cultivation, and mainly devoted to general farming together with stock-raising. The residence with its surroundings, which are represented by a lithographic engraving on another page, give it

the air of plenty and comfort which is delightful to contemplate. The buildings and machinery are all that is required for the successful prosecution of agriculture.

Mr. Leemon was born of Scotch parentage in County Armagh in the North of Ireland, May 8, 1829, and emigrated to America when he was twenty-two years old, coming directly to Illinois and settling in Jersey County. He worked out by the month, first at $12, and during the winter season husked corn at fifty cents per day and board. His wants were few, and at these small wages he managed to save a little money until he had enough to buy a team. This accomplished, he rented a tract of land in Jersey County, where he carried on farming until 1856. In the meantime he had come to this county and purchased 444 acres of wild land. As soon as possible he commenced its improvement and cultivation at a time when there was not a house in that vicinity, excepting the one occupied by Mr. Hoopes, with whom he boarded, going back and forth to his place, two and one-half miles, night and morning.

In the fall of 1857 Mr. Leemon put up a small house on his farm, and, like the bachelor of old, "lived by himself," until he judged it prudent to take unto himself a wife. In the meantime he planted forest and fruit trees, set out a goodly amount of hedge, and instituted the improvements which, as time passed on, resulted in making his farm a very valuable and desirable piece of property. He has now two windmills and a feedmill, his barn being underlaid with water-pipes which lead to various tanks wherever required for the convenience of stock. The wet land has been thoroughly drained with tiling, which was conveyed from Bloomington. When Mr. Leemon settled here wild animals of all kinds were plentiful, especially deer and wolves. He has seen as many as seventy-five deer in one herd, while men frequently got together to hunt the wolves, which hunger made altogether too familiar to suit the settlers, sometimes stealing the deer meat from their doors.

When the time came that Mr. Leemon felt that he could justifiably assume the responsibility of a family, he was united in marriage with Miss Lodema Brown, of Butler Township, the wedding taking place at Rossville Aug. 26, 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Leemon commenced the journey of life together in their own home, and in due time they became the parents of six children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Izele, died at the age of twelve years. The survivors are Lida, Robert A., John A., Charles N. and Edith, and they are all at home with their parents, being given the training and education which will fit them for their proper station in life, as the offspring of one of the first families of this county.

Upon becoming a voting citizen Mr. Leemon identified himself with the Democratic party, but in local or State politics, votes independently, aiming to support the men whom he considers best qualified to serve the interests of the people. He has been the incumbent of nearly every office in Fountain Creek Township. He served as Justice of the Peace eight years, also as School Director, and Trustee, and Supervisor for four years, and has uniformly distinguished himself as a man of progressive and liberal ideas—one willing to give his time and influence to those enterprises calculated for the general good. He was reared in the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church. During the early days he labored early and late, frequently plowing all night long and resting a part of the day, on account of the flies. Notwithstanding this he took good care of his health, never abusing himself by using liquor, and is consequently still a well-preserved man and able to enjoy the fruits of his labors, now that he is in a condition to retire. Many of the enterprises of Hoopestown have found in Mr. Leemon a substantial friend and benefactor. He is Vice President and Director of the new bank.

Thomas Leemon, the father of our subject, was likewise a native of the North of Ireland, to which his forefathers had been driven during the times of religious persecution in Scotland. He married Miss Elizabeth Thompson, and they reared a family of six children, all of whom followed our subject to America in 1854, three years after his arrival here. They sojourned for a time in Jersey County, this State, then removed to Christian County, where the father died in 1862. The mother survived her husband some years, and

spent her last days with her son John, passing away in 1883. Samuel and William Leemon, the two brothers of our subject, are residents of Christian County. Mrs. Leemon was born near Lockport, in Niagara County, N. Y., and when about seventeen years old emigrated with her parents to Indiana, where she lived until about twenty-two years old. They then removed to East Lynn, this county. Her father, John Brown, spent his last days in Marysville, East Tenn., where he died some years ago. The mother, Mrs. Catherine (Bears) Brown, still lives, and makes her home with her daughter, at the advanced age of eighty-one years.

JOHN R. THOMPSON. Few men are better known throughout Oakwood Township than Mr. Thompson. He owns a good farm of 600 acres, on sections 24 and 25, where he has effected most of the improvements upon it, erecting the barn and other buildings, and himself clearing 150 acres. He has made a specialty of sheep-raising—Shropshires and Merinos—and has probably had a larger experience in this industry than any other man in the county. In this he has been uniformly successful, and maintains that the only money he has ever made and saved, he has accumulated in this manner. He has also dealt largely in cattle, swine and general farm produce, and cultivates 250 acres, which, from its soil and location, is classed among the best land in the township. He is a lover of the equine race likewise and has four fine specimens of thorough-bred Kentucky running stock, two of Harkaway, one of Gloster, and one from Laurence, promising young horses, who will probably make a fine record. Mr. Thompson proposes retiring from active labor in the near future, which he can well afford to do, having an ample competence.

The eighth in a family of eighteen children, our subject was born April 12, 1830, in Washington County, Pa. His parents were Joseph and Nancy (Stoughton) Thompson, natives respectively of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The paternal grandfather was a native of Wales, whence he emigrated to America at an early day. Joseph Thompson and his wife spent their entire lives in their native State, the father dying in 1865, and the mother in 1880. Thirteen of their children lived to mature years, and ten are still living, making their homes mostly in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Kansas.

The boyhood days of Mr. Thompson were spent in his native county and his education was acquired in the district school, after which he engaged in farm work until 1851. Then, having reached his majority, he started for the farther West, landing in this county and for six years thereafter operated as a shepherd, thus gaining his knowledge of the proper care and treatment of sheep. He watched his flocks on the wild prairie when the settlers were few and far between and occupying farms within a mile of the timber. In coming to Illinois Mr. Thompson drove a flock of 1,300 sheep for another man, being sixty-six days on the way. He attended these until the spring of 1852 then returned to his native State and returned with a flock of 1,500 to this county, making the entire distance on foot and consuming seventy-two days.

On the 27 of November, 1856, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth, daughter of David C. Wright, who had died previously. The young people commenced the journey of life together on a rented farm which they occupied three years, Mr. Thompson still maintaining his interest in sheep, which he began to raise in goodly numbers and which brought him handsome returns. In due time he purchased 160 acres of land adjacent to that which he now owns. He lived upon this four years, then sold it and purchased 190 acres, partly improved and near the timber. Three years later he sold out once more and purchased his present farm.

To Mr. and Mr. Thompson there were born twelve children, one of whom died young. The survivors form an unusually bright and interesting group, of which the parents are justly proud. The eldest, Joseph Morton, married Miss Molly Steen and is a leading member of the D. A. R., of Danville. D. Lincoln married Miss Melissa Hall and is senior member of the firm of Thompson Bros., general merchants at Fithian; he has two children. Annie, Mrs. Elijah Board, is the mother of one

child and lives in Oakwood Township; Nellie F., John R., Gertie E., Ulysses S., Franciena, Maude, Harrison and Dollie, are at home with their parents. The firm of Thompson Bros., is conspicuous for its admirable business abilities and has few equals in this part of the country. The children of our subject have all been given an excellent education, four of the six eldest receiving first-grade certificates. Joseph M. was graduated from the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, receiving special instruction from Judge Cooley.

Mr. Thompson votes the straight Republican ticket, being the only one of seven brothers who cast his lot with this party—the other six and the the father being staunch Democrats. He has officiated as School Director most of the time since coming to Oakwood Township and has been Pathmaster for many years. Socially, he belongs to the I. O. O. F. at Fithian and has passed all the Chairs and through the Encampment. A man never idle when there is anything to do, he has made for himself a good record in point of industry and perseverance. One of the most fortunate things which has fallen to his lot is his estimable and sensible wife, a lady greatly esteemed in her community for her excellent qualities of character and her devotion to her family.

Mrs. Thompson was the eldest child of her parents and was born Dec. 26, 1837, in Champaign County, Ill. Of the four children born to her parents three are now living, one residing in Iowa and one in Nebraska. Her grandfather, John B. Wright, of Pennsylvania, removed first to Indiana and then to this county of which he was one of the pioneer settlers.

WILLIAM WILSON BUCHANAN, junior member of the firm of Crimmins & Buchanan, is with his partner operating the livery stable at Sidell, and is highly popular among the residents of this well-regulated little village. He also operates considerably as an auctioneer and salesman. He is a man of undoubted ability, and fine personal appearance, and possesses those correct ideas in relation to both public and private life from which spring the better elements of society. He was born in Gentry County, Mo., March 17, 1859.

The parents of our subject were Enoch and Susan (Beard) Buchanan, the father a native of Ohio and the mother of Kentucky. The paternal grandfather removed from the Buckeye State and settled in Edgar County, Ill. about 1845, bringing his family with him. He and his father both served in the war of 1812. The Buchanan family is of Scotch ancestry and upon coming to this country, settled in Pennsylvania where they carried on farming. They were a large, muscular set of people and usually thrifty and well-to-do. Enoch Buchanan was reared to manhood in Edgar County, this State, but was married in Vermilion County, whence he moved to Missouri about 1854, settling on a farm near Fairview. The troubles during the Civil War induced him to return to Illinois and in the meantime his property was destroyed. He was thus left without resources, but set himself to work and was prospered, finally becoming the owner of a farm in Carroll Township. He departed this life in 1878 after an active career of fifty years. The mother is still living and makes her home with our subject; she is now fifty-eight years old. Their four children were named respectively, Sarah, John, William Wilson and Elizabeth. The eldest daughter is a resident of Carroll Township; John died at the age of one year; Elizabeth became the wife of Benjamin Black, one of the leading citizens of Carroll, Township.

Our subject acquired his education in the common school and as his father's business called the latter away from home, William W., being the only son, necessarily assumed the responsibility of looking after the family, although but twenty years of age. In 1878 Mr. Buchanan engaged in the sewing machine business which he followed until the spring of 1889. At the same time he superintended the operation of his farm. He was married in 1881 to Miss Alice C. Gilroy at her home in Carroll Township. Mrs. Buchanan is the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Beard) Gilroy, whose parents came to this county in 1845 and were among the pioneer settlers of Carroll Township. The mother is still living and makes her

home in Butler County, Kan.; she is about fifty-two years old. Of her first marriage there was born one child only—Mrs. Buchanan. After the death of her first husband she was married twice, having three children by the second husband and one by the third.

Mrs. Buchanan was reared to womanhood in Carroll Township, this county, and completed her studies in the High School at Indianola. Of her union with our subject there have been born four children—Essie, Leila, Floy E. and Elma. Mr. Buchanan, politically, votes the Democratic ticket and socially belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp at Indianola. The firm of which he is a member was organized April 17, 1889, but notwithstanding the business is comparatively new, is in the enjoyment of a good patronage. They have put in an excellent stock of new buggies and harness, have good horses, and, in fact, conduct their enterprise in a manner which makes it extremely popular among the people of this region. They are consequently justified in their expectations of the future.

Aside from his livery business Mr. Buchanan is recognized as one of the leading auctioneers of this county, operating principally along its southern line. He has been in practice for the last five years, his transactions being principally in live-stock deals. He is thus widely known throughout Western Indiana and Northern Illinois. He also officiated as Constable of Carroll Township.

WILLIAM DAVIS. The man who has thought much and studied much, and whose character has commended itself to his fellowmen, naturally has an influence in shaping their views and opinions; and this influence will be felt long after he has been gathered to his fathers. Here and there we find one far in advance of his age—one whose children will probably live to see the time when his prophecies will have been fulfilled and his ideas adopted by a later generation. These thoughts involuntarily arise in contemplating the career of Mr. Davis, who is a man of more than ordinary intelligence, possessing a mind filled with those broad and philanthropic ideas which must necessarily in time become of benefit to the human race. He was born with a natural antipathy to tyranny in all its forms, believing with Patrick Henry, that death is preferable to oppression. He is totally averse to trusts and monopolies and whenever opportunity occurs lifts up his voice against those corporations which have proved the ruin, not only of individuals, but sometimes almost of entire communities.

Mr. Davis was one of the earliest pioneers of Vermilion County and was at an early day acknowledged as one of its leading men. He was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, Jan. 25, 1811, and was the third in a family of ten children, the offspring of Henry and Rachel (Polock) Davis, both natives of Pennsylvania and the father born in Greene County. The paternal grandfather, also a native of the Keystone State, was a patriot of the Revolutionary War, after which he settled in Ohio, reared two families of twelve children each and departed this life about 1823. Grandfather Polock died in Guernsey County about 1820. This branch of the Davis family was of Dutch and Welsh descent while the Polocks traced their ancestry to Ireland. Henry Davis occupied himself largely as a farmer and was also successfully engaged in raising tobacco.

The parents of our subject after marriage lived in Pennsylvania two years, then in 1807 made their way to the young State of Ohio, accompanied by grandfather Polock, and settled in Guernsey County. The mother of our subject died in Illinois in 1848. The father survived his wife five years, dying in 1853. They came to Illinois in the fall of 1836. Mr. Davis, prior to this, had visited Illinois four times, being determined to settle here. Five of their children are still living, making their homes in Illinois and Iowa.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were spent amid the wild scenes of pioneer life during the early settlement of Ohio and he naively states that the only bear hunt he ever took part in was when he was five months old and his father killed the bear. He attended school two months in the winter season for a few years, and after reaching his majority began making arrangements for the establishment of a home of his own. In the fall of

1834, he was married to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of David Hayes of Washington County, Pa. The young couple thirteen days afterward started for Illinois with a wagon and accompanied by an uncle of our subject and his brother Azariah with his wife and child. They were nineteen days on the journey and Mr. and Mrs. Davis walked nearly all the way.

Mr. Davis received from his father seventy-seven acres of land in Vance Township, this county, upon which was a hewed log cabin. The newly wedded pair had brought with them a couple of beds and a few things stowed away in sacks, while Mr. Davis had his ax and gun. Two hours after reaching their destination they were visited by prairie wolves which were frequent callers for many years afterward. After obtaining some wheat which had been raised on his place the year before, Mr. Davis repaired to Eugene, Ind., and selling this wheat, purchased a few cooking utensils. He and his wife had stools to sit upon and a table made by boring holes in the log wall of their dwelling, driving in a couple of pins and laying a few slabs across.

In those days there were only a few houses between Catlin and Sidney. Homer was not in existence. The Wabash Railway track was surveyed in 1837. Our subject's little farm was partly broken before it became his, his father giving him the deed for it in 1837. He was successful in his first farming operations, although he had very crude implements with which to cultivate the soil and no help save that of his wife. He struggled along in the new country and grew slowly with it. He thinks the most prosperous times for this section were between 1850 and 1860 and the two years following the close of the war.

Ten children came to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Davis, seven of whom grew to mature years. Rachel became the wife of Daniel Roudebush who is now deceased; she has four children and lives near Portland, Ore.; Edith married Benjamin Browning and became the mother of four children; they live near Sacramento, Cal.; D. Cook married for his second wife a Mrs. Miller of Penfield, Ill., and they have six children; Henry is written of elsewhere in this volume; Jemima is the wife of Sullivan Cox, lives in Dement and has one child; Lydia, E., the wife of George W. Baird, is the mother of four children and they live in Vance Township.

Mrs. Elizabeth (Hayes) Davis departed this life at the homestead in the fall of 1861.

Our subject contracted a second matrimonial alliance Aug. 21, 1863, with Miss Mary C., daughter of Lawrence T. Catlett and sister of Hiram and Harold Catlett of Vance Township. Mrs. Davis was the third in a family of twelve children and was born Aug. 23, 1821, in Charlottesville, Va. She attended school for a time in her native State and completed a good education in Ohio. She followed the profession of a teacher for some years prior to her marriage. The family came to Illinois in 1846 and Miss Mary taught school for some time in this county. She is a most estimable and worthy lady, kind, generous and hospitable and especially attentive to those in affliction. She has always been interested in educational matters and donated $75 from her own private purse to the university at Upper Alton. She also gave $50 to the Baptist Church in Danville of which both she and her husband have been members for many years, Mr. Davis serving as Deacon and Trustee and both laboring earnestly in the Sunday-school. The health of Mrs. Davis for the past two years has been delicate, preventing her from pursuing this good work as she would have liked.

Mr. Davis, more fortunate than many of his compeers, financially, received $2,500 from his father and had the good judgment to take care of it and add to it. He is now the owner of about 1,000 acres of land in this county and five good houses. He has an interest in the implement firm of Davis & Stearns, and also in a large grain warehouse. Besides this he owns fifteen or eighteen lots in Fairmount and has given to each of his children $3,500. He donated $1,000 to the Douglas University at Chicago, $500 to the Wabash Railroad, $500 to the university at Upper Alton and has always been a liberal supporter of the schools, churches and other worthy enterprises in this County. His estate is valued at $60,000. While busy with the accumulation of this world's goods for himself he has the satisfaction of knowing that the needy have never

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Mrs. George Hoagland, wife of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, July 30, 1815, and removed with her parents to Indiana when a maiden of eighteen years. She remained under the parental roof until her marriage. Her father, Thomas Cushman, was a farmer by occupation, and spent his last years in Indiana.

Charles Barcus, the grandson of our subject, and the child of his daughter, Mary, resides at the homestead. John Barcus, his father, after his marriage with Miss Hoagland, located in Grant Township, and they became the parents of three sons and one daughter, one older than Charles, and two younger.

HENRY LLOYD, a veteran of the late war, wherein he did loyal service for his adopted country, is one of the leading citizens of Catlin Township, prominent in the management of its public affairs, and closely identified with its material interests as an intelligent, progressive farmer, stock-raiser, and stock-dealer. His farm on section 34, with its broad, well-tilled acres, its orderly, commodious buildings, and pleasant dwelling is one of the most desirable and attractive places in this part of Vermillion County.

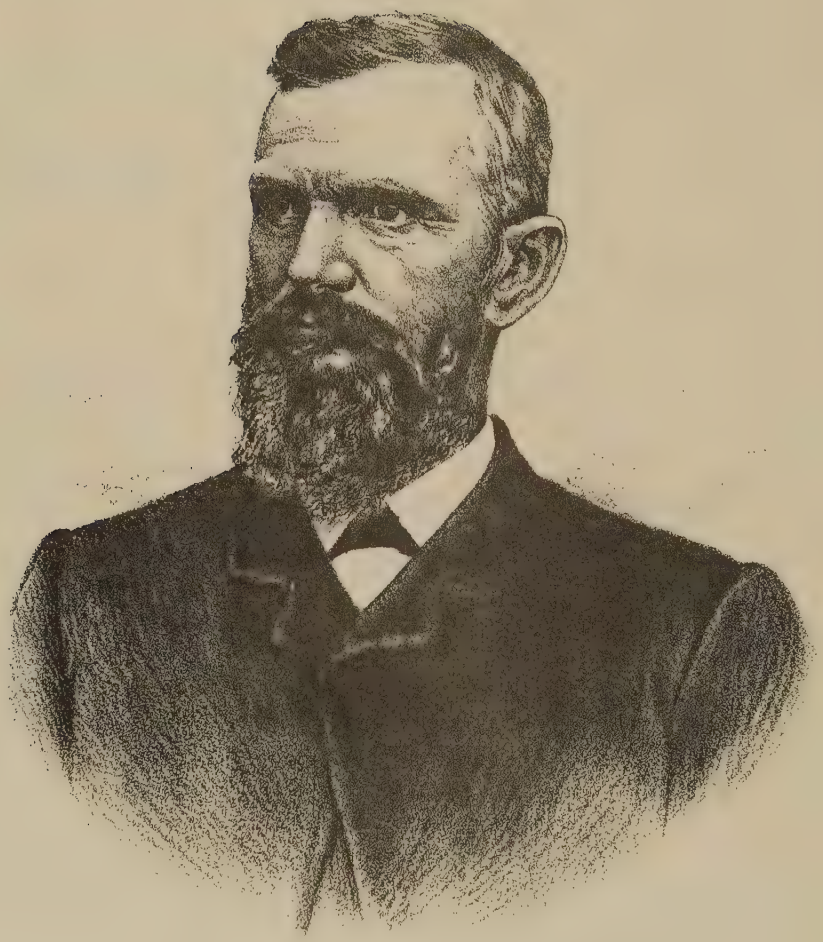
Mr. Lloyd is of good English stock, and is himself a native of the mother country, born in Berkshire, April 5, 1841. His parents, Richard C. and Susan (Wicks) Lloyd, were also born in England, and were life-long residents of the old country, dying in Berkshire. They were people of sterling worth, well thought of by their neighbors, and they trained their seven children to habits of usefulness and honesty.

Henry Lloyd was the fourth child of the family and the years of his boyhood were passed among the pleasant scenes of his native land. In 1858, when seventeen years of age he left his old home, ambitious to see more of life and to avail himself of the many advantages offered by the United States of America to the poor youth of other countries to make their way in the world to positions of comfort and even affluence. After landing on these shores he came to Catlin Township, of which he has been a resident since, excepting during the trying times of the great Rebellion, when with a patriotism not exceeded by those native and to the manor born, he bravely consecrated his young life to the defence of the land of his adoption. In August, 1862, tearing himself away from his little family, and laying aside all business interests, he enlisted, and in the following September he was mustered into Company G, 125th Illinois Infantry, and was in the army until after the war closed. He took an active part in the battles of Perryville, Mission Ridge, second battle of Mission Ridge, battle of Dallas, and was with Gen. Sherman in his famous march to the sea. During two years of his service he was detailed to haul ammunition. He was honorably discharged June 9, 1865, and returning to Catlin, resumed his former vocation. The first four years after coming to Catlin Township he was engaged in the butcher business, but aside from that he has been occupied in farming and in raising, buying and shipping stock quite extensively. He owns 240 acres of choice land, all improved, and amply supplied with excellent buildings for all necessary purposes and with modern machinery for facilitating the labors of the farm.

Mr. Lloyd and Miss Sarah Church were united in marriage in Catlin Township, Dec. 20, 1860, and nine children have been born to them—Edwin C., who died when ten and a half months old; Maria L. is the wife of Abraham Wolf; two who died in infancy; Alice E., Fred R., Fannie E., Edwin H., and William R.

Mrs. Lloyd is like her husband, a native of England, born in London Jan. 7, 1844. In 1850, when she was six years of age, her parents, Henry and Sophia (Puzey) Church, who were likewise of English birth, brought her to this country. They cast their lot with the early settlers of Catlin Township, and passed their remaining days here. They had seven children, Mrs. Lloyd being the youngest. She is a woman of a happy, amiable disposition, is well liked by all who know her, and is a member in high standing of the Methodist Church.

Mr. Lloyd is a frank, open hearted man, gifted with rare energy and stability of character. His public spirit is well known, and any good scheme



H. Gerker

that will in any way promote the best interests of the township is sure to meet with his cordial approval and substantial support. His fellow-citizens have often called upon him for advice in weighty matters, and as a public official he has shown his disinterested regard for the welfare of the community. He has been Road Commissioner three years, Township Collector two years, School Director six years, and Vice-President of the Vermilion Agricultural Society seven years. He is connected with the A. F. & A. M. as a member of Catlin Lodge, No. 285. He and his family are people of high social standing in this community, and their pleasant residence, situated a short distance from the road and close to the corporation of Catlin, is the centre of a genuine hospitality, the graceful and kindly courtesy of its inmates making friends and strangers alike feel at home within its walls.

HIRAM YERKES. The firm of Yerkes & Reese conduct a first-class meat-market in Fairmount, obtaining their supplies from the farm of Mr. Yerkes, which furnishes the pure article so essential to the health of mankind. The firm is one of first-class standing, and enjoys the patronage of the best people of Fairmount and vicinity. The subject of this notice is a man of more than ordinary abilities, with a thorough-going business talent, while at the same time he is whole-souled, genial and companionable, enjoying the esteem and confidence of hosts of friends.

The Yerkes family originated in Germany, from which country the paternal great-grandfather of our subject emigrated prior to the Revolutionary War. He reared a fine family, and among his sons was Jacob S., the father of our subject, who was born in Pennsylvania and adopted the business of a wagon-maker and farmer combined. He was married, in his native State, to Miss Ann S. Shoemaker, who was born there, and not long afterward they removed to Ohio, where Mr. Yerkes followed wagon-making for four years. Then he removed to Indiana, and remained a resident of the Hoosier State a quarter of a century and engaged in wagon-making and agricultural pursuits. There the parents passed the remainder of their lives, the mother dying in 1882, and the father in the fall of 1886.

To the parents of our subject there were born eight children, only four of whom reached their majority. Hiram, the second in the family, was born May 7, 1840, in Ohio, and was a mere child when his parents left the Buckeye State for Indiana. In the latter State his early education was conducted in the primitive log schoolhouse, the terms being very short and far between. He, however, took kindly to his books, and gained a very good knowledge of the common branches. He remained under the home roof until the outbreak of the Civil War, and in August, 1862, enlisted in the Union army as a member of Company H, 63d Indiana Infantry, which regiment was organized in Indianapolis, first commanded by Col. Williams and later by Col. I. N. Stiles.

Mr. Yerkes fought in sixteen battles and followed his regiment in all its marches, participating in all the hardships and vicissitudes of a soldier's life. The records indicate that he was one of the bravest men of his company, and while at the front, in some of the hardest fought battles of the war, stood at his post without fear or flinching. He was content to enter the ranks as a private, and was first promoted to the post of Corporal, and afterward to Sergeant. He met the enemy in the field at Resaca, Ga., Franklin and Nashville, Tenn., Atlanta, Kenesaw Mountain, Jonesboro, Cassville, Lost Mountain, Altoona, Chattahoochie, Town Creek, Burnt Hickory, Buzzard's Roost, Ft. Anderson, Wilmington and Columbia, N. C.

Although experiencing many hairbreadth escapes, Mr. Yerkes never received a scratch. He was at one time entirely buried in the dirt plowed up by a Rebel cannon ball, escaping by a miracle from being torn to pieces by the deadly missile. He had the satisfaction of witnessing the surrender of the rebel Gen. Johnston to Gen. Sherman, but the joy of the Union army was soon saddened by the news of Lincoln's assassination. After the surrender spoken of, they remained in Greensburg until July, 1865, when the regiment

was discharged, and our subject, being mustered out at Indianapolis, returned to his home in Indiana.

On the 21st of September, in the above-mentioned year, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Hester E. Prevo, daughter of a prominent farmer of Fountain County, Ind., and one of the most lovely young ladies of that region. Mrs. Hester E. Yerkes was one of a family of six children, and was born in Indiana, in October, 1839. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Yerkes came to Illinois, arriving in this county Oct. 17, 1865, and settling upon the land which constitutes the present homestead of our subject. Of this congenial union there were born six children, the eldest of whom, a son, Spencer G., remains at home with his father. Alice M. is the wife of Charles Price, and they live on a farm two miles northeast of Fairmount. Ella May, Anna L., Susie and Hattie are at home with their father. The mother of these children departed this life at the home farm in Vance Township, on the 6th day of September, 1877. She was a lady greatly beloved by her family and friends, possessing those estimable qualities by which she was enabled to illustrate in her life the best traits of the devoted wife and mother, the kind and generous friend, and the hospitable neighbor. Her name is held in tender remembrance by all who knew her.

Our subject, in January, 1878, contracted a second marriage with Miss Mary Olive, daughter of the Rev. J. H. Noble, a prominent minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This union resulted in the birth of four children, one of whom, Pearl, died in infancy. The others are Hiram N., Lola G. and Winnie M. The boy Hiram is especially bright, very attentive to his studies in school, and maintains his position at the head of his class, gaining great enconiums from his teacher. Mr. Yerkes has officiated as Township Supervisor for five years, holding the office during the erection of the County Court House (at Danville), which bears his name upon its corner-stone. This was a scheme in which he was intensely interested, and it was largely through his efforts that the edifice was finished in good shape and without involving the loss of a dollar to the county. So judiciously were its affairs managed that the taxpayers hardly realized that they were contributing to its erection, and never missed the additional sum imposed. The County Jail was erected about the same time and under the same conditions.

Our subject has officiated as Highway Commissioner three years, and in this, as in all other positions of trust and responsibility, which he has occupied, bent his energies to effect those improvements which would benefit the people and at the same time prevent excessive taxation. While holding the above-mentioned office, he furthered the introduction of the system of stone arch bridges in Vance Township, and they are, without question, the cheapest and most durable bridge which can be erected. Sewer drainage for the small streams instead of the old plank culverts was also adopted, through the persistent efforts of Mr. Yerkes. He has been School Director in his district for many years, and so well has he performed his duties in connection therewith, that the Board is about to purchase a site and erect a new building at a cost of about $7,000.

Politically, Mr. Yerkes uniformly votes the Republican ticket, and has frequently been sent as a delegate to the County Conventions. In connection with this, as in all other matters, he is content with no halfway measures, and has thus been of effective service to his party in this section, being thoroughly well-informed and alive to all the political issues of the day. Both he and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially, Mr. Yerkes belongs to Fairmount Lodge No. 590, A. F. & A. M., and to George N. Neville Post, G. A. R., of which he was once Vice Commander. In his church he officiates as Steward and Trustee, and for the past eighteen years has been one of the most efficient workers in the Sunday-school, officiating as Superintendent nine years, as teacher of the Bible Class the same length of time, and, when not chief Superintendent, acting as assistant.

The farm of Mr. Yerkes is finely situated on section 9, and comprises 320 acres of land—all in one body. Being just outside the corporate limits of Fairmount, on the southwest, it is naturally very valuable. The whole is in a productive condition,

and yields abundantly the rich crops of Central Illinois. Mr. Yerkes feeds nearly 100 head of cattle each year, and about seventy-five head of swine. He keeps simply enough horses to operate the farm. He has recently disposed of 185 acres of coal land, seven miles west of Danville.

It is an appropriate testimonial to the worth of Mr. Yerkes that his portrait should occupy a prominent place in the ALBUM of the county, to the material advancement of which he has so largely contributed.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SNOWDEN. The fact that this gentleman is successfully operating three farms in Sidell Township is sufficient indication of his ability as a business man and agriculturist, while his home is one of the most hospitable places to be found in many a mile. Although not a long-time resident of the township, he has established himself in the esteem and confidence of its people, and is recognized as a citizen holding no secondary place in point of sterling worth, honesty and integrity. He has supervision of the Charles Wright farm—220 acres in extent—upon which he resides; the A. J. Baum farm of 340 acres, and a little farm of seventy acres, belonging also to this estate, all of which comprises 630 acres, and all of which, with the exception of forty acres, is under the plow. The land is largely devoted to the raising of corn and oats, and in the operation of this extensive tract there are utilized thirteen teams, with a goodly amount of machinery and all the other implements required for successful agriculture. The firm of Snowden & Sons has become generally recognized in this section as the synonym of reliability, push and enterprise.

William Snowden, the father of our subject, with his wife, formerly Miss Martha Pigg, were natives of Clark County, Ky., where the paternal grandfather, Joshua Snowden, was also born and was the son of David Snowden, a native of Virginia, whose father was also born in the Old Dominion and whose grandfather emigrated from England. Joshua Snowden served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and the great-grandfather of our subject carried a musket in the Revolutionary War. The Snowden family is noted for longevity, many of them reaching the age of ninety years and some living to be over one hundred years old. The Pigg family in Virginia owned lands and slaves. They had originally settled in Kentucky, and several of the male ancestors of our subject on this side of the house likewise served in the Revolutionary War.

The father of our subject carried on farming and prosecuted quite an extensive trade in fine horses, cattle and mules, purchasing them in Kentucky and shipping to Virginia, Missouri, Illinois and other States. He brought about the first Shorthorn cattle known in this State, landing them in Bloomington, Ill. He was born, reared, married and died in Clark County, Ky., where he was a prominent citizen, well known and highly respected. His business relations extended to Bourbon, Fayette, Merritt, Esther, Powell, and other counties of that State, as also into various other States of the Union. In addition to his extensive private interests he served as Notary Public several years, and was noted for his public-spiritedness and generosity. He became quite wealthy, but finally became security for large amounts and lost the whole of his property, leaving his son, our subject, almost penniless. His death occurred April 17, 1884, at the age of sixty-seven years. The mother only survived her husband a short time, her death taking place July 1, 1883, when she was sixty-five years old.

Nine children were born to the parents of our subject, being named respectively: Benjamin Franklin of this sketch, Thomas J., William N., John W., Louisa, Joshua, Mary, Melissa, who died at the age of thirteen years, and Nancy, who died when three years old. Thomas J. is a live-stock commission merchant at the Union Stock Yards, Cincinnati, Ohio; William N. is farming in Clark County, Ky.; John W., a physician and surgeon, is located at Wade's Mill in Clark County, Ky.; Louisa is the wife of Taylor Mansfield, a farmer of the above-mentioned county; Joshua is farming and resides on the Parkville homestead; Mary is the wife of David B. Duncan, a farmer of Madison County, Ky.

The subject of this notice was born Dec. 8, 1839,

fourteen miles east of Paris in Bourbon County, Ky. He was a mere child when his father's family removed to Clark County, where he developed into manhood. He attended the subscription schools before the days of public schools, and engaged in farming and shipping stock. When twenty-one years old he was married to Miss Amanda F. Craig of Estill County, Ky., and the daughter of Olando Whitney Craig, one of the first Methodist Episcopal preachers in the Blue Grass State. Her mother, Miss Maria (Bellis) Craig, was a native of Estill County. Mr. Craig was born in Montgomery County. The progenitors of both removed from Virginia at an early date. The great-grandfather Craig was one of the earliest settlers of Montgomery County, locating there about 1821, and he lived to be one hundred and two years old. He also was a preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His son, William, the grandfather of our subject, spent his entire life in Montgomery County.

The father of Mrs. Snowden preached at various places in Kentucky—in Montgomery. Clark, Estill and Powell counties—and died in Estill County in 1848. when only forty years of age; the mother survived her husband several years, dying in 1862 at the age of forty-two. Their children, six in number, were named respectively William T., Amanda F., Eliza J., John T., Mary E. and Sarah E. The parents were excellent and worthy people, and the father especially beloved wherever known.

Mrs. Snowden was born in Estill County, Ky., and received a very good education. She finally began teaching, and followed this three years prior to her marriage and for some time afterward. Mr. Snowden in the meantime engaged extensively as a stock dealer, buying and selling cattle, horses and mules. He also carried on farming in Kentucky. In the spring of 1887 he came to this county and rented the Wright farm, where they have since lived. The record of the eleven children born to them is as follows: Nancy B. died at the age of three years; John W. assists his father in his extensive farming interests; Thomas J. is also at home; Martha M. is the wife of James W. Young of Danville, and they have one child, Annie Laura; William M., Lena Rivers, Joshua H., Mary E. and Nora A. are at home with their parents. The eighth child, Maggie L., died at the age of nine years and the youngest born, Algan, died when seven months old.

Mr. Snowden, politically, affiliates with the Democratic party. Socially, he belongs to Estill Lodge, No. 469, of Spout Springs, Ky., and his wife is a member of the Ladies' Aid Society. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Snowden served in the Revolutionary War, and one of her uncles was in the Mexican War. Two of her brothers were in the late Civil War—William in the Confederate Army and John in the Union Army, in which he enlisted three times. The old home of Mr. Snowden is located ten miles from Boonesboro, Clark Co., Ky., and was formerly the home of Daniel Boone, the old pioneer of Kentucky and of historic fame. Our subject is well acquainted with several members of the Boone family, and speaks of them as very worthy people, prominent in local affairs and invariably Hard Shell Baptists in their religious views.

CARL C. WINTER, editor of the Danville *Deutsche Zeitung*, was born in Heidelberg, Germany, April 21, 1841. He is descended from a prominent and distinguished ancestry, who have wielded much influence in their native land. Originally the family came in the seventeenth century from the coast of Holland, near Amsterdam, settling first at Heilbronn, whence the great-grandfather of our subject removed to Heidelberg in 1807. His grandfather, Christian Frederick Winter, was for many years Mayor of the City of Heidelberg, an office of greater honor and respectability in that country than in this, and one to which only prominent men are chosen. He was for many years also a member of the Legislature of the Grand Duchy of Baden, and exercised a wide influence in its affairs. He introduced and procured the passage of the bill inaugurating the jury system in the State, and securing the liberty of the press. He was afterward Commissioner of the Republic of Baden during the celebrated Revolution of 1849, in Germany, which was the successor of the abortive attempt of 1848. During the year the

Independent Republic of Baden existed, Mr. Winter was one of the leading spirits in the affairs of the new State, being an orator of great power and influence. On the suppression of the Republic by the Prussians, Mr. Winter was imprisoned in Heidelberg, and was compelled to indemnify the government for all the official funds in the treasury at the time of the inauguration of the Republic. This cost him almost all his large private fortune. He was a political prisoner for about a year and after his release occupied a prominent position in business life, and for several years prior to his death was again Mayor of Heidelberg. He was a close personal friend of the leaders of the revolutionary movement, and especially of Col. Fritz Hecker. He was also an intimate associate of Liebig, the chemist. Humboldt, Goethe, Fichte, Schlegel, and Schlosser, the celebrated German historian, with whom he was engaged in literary correspondence. He was the founder of the great publishing house of C. F. Winter, which printed the works of Dr. Liebig, of Bunsen, the chemist, of Haeusser, of Fresenius, Wohler's "Annals of Chemistry," and the works of many other world renowned writers.

Christian Frederick Winter died in 1856, and his wife in 1858. Of their sons several became prominent in the State and in business circles. The eldest, Jonathan, whom in his admiration for this free land his father had named after "Brother Jonathan," held the position of Under-Secretary of State in Baden, and was about to be promoted to the position of Minister of State, when he died in 1886, in Carlsruhe, being then in the prime of life. Another son, Christian Frederick, afterward became a prominent publisher in Frankfort, and printed many famous works, principally on theological and agricultural subjects. He died in Frankfort in 1883. Carl became publisher and bookseller in his native city of Heidelberg, where he was a prosperous and influential citizen. He died in 1871, leaving a numerous family and a large estate. The remaining son, Anton, was the father of our subject. He was born in Heidelberg in 1808, and received his higher education in the celebrated university of that city. He succeeded to his father's business, which he had conducted during the latter part of his father's life. He maintained the national reputation of the great publishing house of C. F. Winter fully up to the standard which had been reached by its founder. After his father's death he removed the establishment to Leipsic, the great center of the book trade of Germany, and there he conducted it until his death, which occurred in 1859.

Anton Winter was married in 1840 to Miss Emily Broenner, whose father, H. L. Broenner, was a publisher at Frankfort. She was born in that city in 1820, and was a highly educated lady, a graduate of the Female Academy at Rumperheim-on-the-Main. She died in December, 1887. She was a lady of many accomplishments, a fine painter, and well versed in science, literature and art. Her union with Mr. Winter was blessed by the birth of six children, of whom our subject was the eldest; Henrietta, the second child, died in Leipsic in 1885; Ludwig is a landscape gardner and florist, and has an establishment of world-wide reputation at Bordighera, on the Riviera, near Nice, Italy. He was educated in his profession at Potsdam, is royal gardener to the King of Italy, and holds a position in his art second to none in the world. Sophia is a noted teacher in the Female Academy of Leipsic, of which she was a graduate; Ferdinand is a merchant in London, England, being a partner in and manager of the English house of the Hamburg Rubber Company, the largest hard rubber establishment in the world. Clara died in childhood.

Carl C. Winter, our subject, passed his boyhood amid the beautiful scenery in and around the city of his birth. His early education was in its public schools, and he was carefully trained, both mentally and physically, by highly cultured parents, who left upon him impressions deep and lasting. He was prepared for and entered the Lyceum at Heidelberg, then under the direction of Professor Hautz. He was thoroughly prepared for the University, which he entered at the unusually early age of eighteen. He was educated especially to fit him for the business of publishing, and took a general historical course under Prof. Ludwig Haeusser, author, amongst other works, of an exhaustive history of the Revolution of 1849. He attended a course in philosophy under Prof. Kuno Fischer, and a course in English and French literature under

Prof. Dr. Emil Otto, who gave him private lessons, a distinction shared by two other people only. On account of the death of his father he left the University to assist his mother in settling up the business of the estate, and, being himself too young to carry it on, the publishing business was sold to an association of capitalists, who still continue it at Leipsic, under the original title of C. F. Winter.

In order to become practically acquainted with the printing business, our subject worked in several book publishing houses in Prague, Bremen, Marburg and in London, England. During this period he contributed many articles to the *Illustrirte Welt* and the *Illustrirtes Familienbuch*, the former published at Stuttgart, and the latter at Trieste and Vienna. While in London, he decided to come to the United States. He made a short visit to his native land in the early part of the year 1866, and in April of that year sailed for New York, landing there about the first of May. In that city he engaged as a clerk with L. W. Schmidt, bookseller and publisher, but his inclinations being toward literary pursuits, he soon became city editor of the New York *Staats-Zeitung*, under the veteran editor Oswald Ottendorfer. He filled that position for two years, at the same time contributing literary articles to the New York *Herald*, and articles on German and French literature to the New York *Nation*. In 1868 he resigned from the *Staats-Zeitung*, to accept the position of editor of the Lehigh County *Patriot*, published at Allentown, Pa. There he remained for a year, and in that time wrote for the *Nation* a series of articles on the Pennsylvania-Dutch dialect, also contributing a series of letters on American life to the *Daheim* of Leipsic, Germany.

In 1869 Mr. Winter was offered and accepted the position of city editor of the *Daily Telegraph*, a German paper, published in Indianapolis, Ind., and remained with that paper until 1871, when he received a flattering offer from the manager of the Louisville *Anzeiger*, tendering him the position of city editor and literary writer. He stayed there until 1872, when he was re-engaged by the Indianapolis *Telegraph* to conduct its city department during the exciting Presidential contest of that year. He was also engaged by Elijah Halford, then editor of the Indianapolis *Journal*, now Pres. Harrison's private secretary, and also by the managing editor of the Indianapolis *Sentinel*, to report and translate for their respective papers the first speech in that memorable campaign delivered in German at Indianapolis by Carl Schurz. Mr. Winter, after writing out his notes for the German paper, began the translation into English for the two other journals, using manifold paper, finishing the task in little over two hours, the speech occupying nearly two columns in each paper. Each of the editors, after reading a few pages, paid him the compliment of sending his manuscript to the printers without revision. Mr. Schurz afterwards told Mr. Winter it was the best translation ever made of any of his German speeches.

Mr. Winter stayed in Indianapolis until 1873, when he was called by telegraph to accept the position of city editor of the *Westliche Post*, the German paper published in St. Louis by Carl Schurz. He managed that successfully, and while there, also for two years contributed literary articles to his Sunday edition, and several times, while the Missouri Legislature was in session, acted as its correspondent at Jefferson City, the capital. In 1875, failing eyesight necessitated a cessation of night work, and Mr. Winter resigned his position, and went to Rock Island, Ill., where he began the publication of the *Volks Zeitung*, a semi-weekly journal. In this venture he was very successful, and he conducted the paper until 1882, when he sold it. He then bought an interest in the *Champion of Personal Liberty*, a paper published in Chicago in the interest of individual freedom. He traveled in the interest of this journal as correspondent collector and agent six months, then came to Danville, where he bought the good will of the journal of which he is now the editor, and which had by mismanagement been compelled to suspend publication. This paper he has placed upon a secure basis, and it has acquired much influence among the German speaking residents of the county, by whom it is liberally patronized.

Another literary venture of Mr. Winter's was the writing of a four-act comedy in German, entitled "*Es Stimmt*," which has been successfully

performed in the German theaters of Chicago, Davenport, Moline, Dayton, Fort Madison, and in several other places. Mr. Winter submitted it to a celebrated critic at Leipsic, who spoke highly of it, saying it was a very dramatic and interesting picture of German-American life. This work he produced in 1880, while he was publishing his paper in Rock Island.

Since taking up his residence in Vermilion County, Mr. Winter has become a leader in its German-American circles, in which he wields much influence. He was United States Deputy Collector for the eighth district of Illinois from the fall of 1885 until 1887, when the office was abolished. He is a busy man, for in addition to conducting his paper he performs the duty of a Notary Public, attends to applications for United States licenses, is a fine insurance and real-estate agent, procures steamship tickets, attends to European collections and is the Secretary of the Germania Building Association of Danville. Being a man of force and executive capacity, he drives his multifarious businesses, and does not let them drive him. He is also correspondent of the Chicago *Times*.

The social relations of Mr. Winter are extremely pleasant. He is happily married, and moves among the best elements of German society. He is a member of the Feuerbach Lodge, No. 499, I. O. O. F., and of the Danville Turner Society, of which he has twice been President, and also Corresponding Secretary. He is pleasant and genial in his deportment, liberal to his friends, to whom his hand is ever open, and is deservedly esteemed by all who know him.

JOHN CESSNA is busily engaged in tilling the soil and raising stock on his well-managed, comfortably improved farm on section 10, Pilot Township. He is a representative self-made man, and by industry and prudence has succeeded in accumulating a competence and in building a cosy home where he may pass his declining years well fortified against want and poverty. Mr. Cessna was born in Cochocton County, Ohio, June 29, 1833, his parents being Jonathan and Margaret (Divan) Cessna. His father was born in Pennsylvania in 1810, his mother in Belmont County, Ohio.

At the age of seventeen the subject of this sketch accompanied his parents to another home near Toledo, Ohio, where they lived but a short time. They then went down the Ohio River on a trading boat to Cairo, Ill., where the father died in 1844. After that sad event the subject with his mother and sister returned to Coshocton County, Ohio, and in about two years the mother married again, becoming the wife of Joseph Richardson. In 1848 the family once more came to Illinois and located on the homestead Mr. Richardson then purchased in this county, and now occupied by the mother of our subject. Mr. Cessna has but one sister now, the widow of Elisha Grimes, living on her husband's homestead. She has eight children, namely: John M., Elisha C., William and Jacob (who are deceased), Alvin, Margaret, Ellen, Charles and Belle.

John Cessna, of whom we write, commenced life as a farm hand. He wisely saved his earnings and in a few years had money enough to buy a good farm. In 1857, smitten with a desire to accumulate wealth still faster, he went to California by the way of New York and Panama. In the Golden State he found employment on a ranche, and was well paid for his work in that country, where good and reliable help was scarce. Twenty-two months of life in that climate satisfied our subject and he retraced his steps homeward, and on his return invested some of his capital in an 80-acre farm, which he subsequently disposed of at a good advance price, and then bought his present homestead, which then comprised but 140 acres. He has kept adding to his landed property till he now owns 260 acres of fine land, with excellent improvements, that add greatly to its value, and he is profitably engaged in a general farming business, raising cattle, horses and hogs of good grades.

Mr. Cessna has twice married. The maiden name of his first wife was Ann Rebecca Truax. She was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, in 1841, and died in the pleasant home she had helped her husband to build up, in 1876. Her people were of Irish origin.

Of her marriage with our subject seven children were born, two of whom are dead; those living are William, Mary, Charles E., Lemuel E., and Elizabeth. Mr. Cessna was united in marriage to his present wife in 1877, and to them have come six children, two of whom are dead, Frank and Jonathan. The others are Ann R., John R., Albert B., and Mont P., all being at home.

Mr. Cessna has been a hard working man, but his labors have been amply rewarded, as he knows well how to direct his energies so as to produce the desired results. He is possessed of sound sense, discretion and other good traits, is honest and straitforward in his manner and dealings, and is in all things a sensible man. He and his wife are esteemed members of the Christain Church, of which he is one of the trustees at the time of the erection of the present house of worship. He is prominently connected with the Masonic order as Master Mason.

In politics, he is a good democrat, and is loyal in every fibre to his country. He has held school offices and has served on the juries of his county. Our subject's mother died since the above was written, her death occuring June 30, 1889.

SAMUEL ALBRIGHT. The subject of this notice was one of the first men to settle in Ross Township, along Bean Creek, taking up his abode there on the 11th day of October, 1855. His first purchase was 240 acres of land where he built a small house, and he was the first man to stir the soil with a plowshare. He did a large amount of breaking himself, enclosed and divided his fields with fencing, put out fruit and shade trees and erected buildings as his needs multiplied and his means permitted. He was prospered as a tiller of the soil and invested his surplus capital in additional land which under his wise management became very fertile and yielded handsome returns. His property lies on sections 19, 30 and 31, and is considered as including some of the most desirable land in this part of the county.

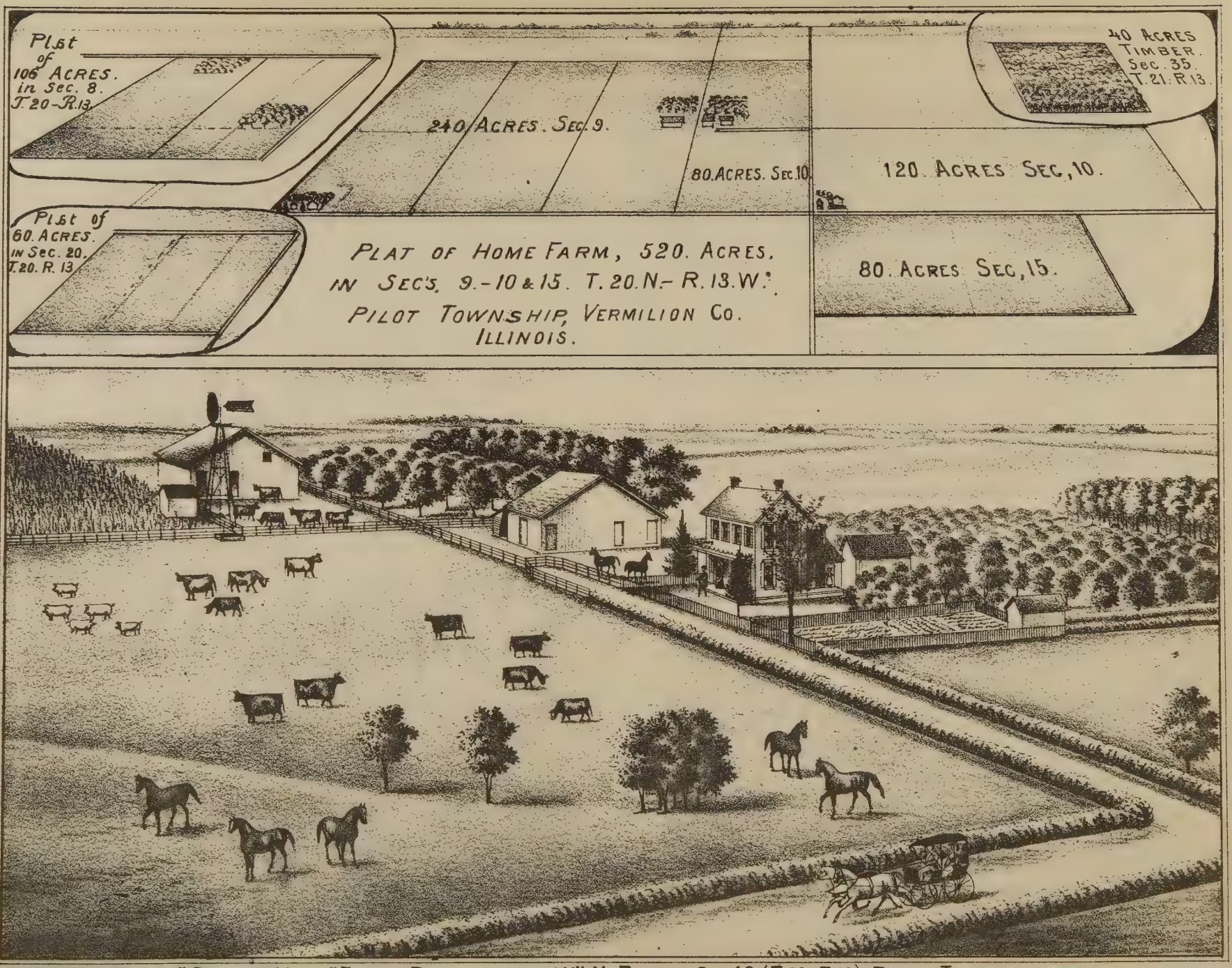
About 1875, the first humble domicile of our subject gave place to an elegant residence, while adjacent is a very fine barn flanked by the other necessary buildings. He has the latest improved machinery, including an expensive windmill and an artesian well which throws a running stream of water two feet above the ground, with its source 130 feet below. In his stock operations, Mr. Albright breeds mostly horses and cattle.

Mr. Albright in March, 1886, rented his farm and retiring from active labor, purchased a pleasant home in Rossville where he now resides. His has been a remarkably busy life, as in addition to his farming operations, he has given considerable of his time to looking after the local interests of his township, officiating as School Director and serving as Justice of the Peace for seven years. He usually gives his support to the Democratic party and for a period of forty-five years has been a member of the United Brethren Church. He has been at two different times the candidate of his party in this county for the Legislature, but being in the minority, was beaten as he expected.

Mr. Albright was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, Sept. 12, 1816, and lived there until a lad of twelve years. He then removed to Pickaway County where he sojourned until his marriage, which took place four miles southeast of Circleville the bride being Miss Clemency Morris. Of this union there were born two children—John M. and Mary Ellen, the latter the wife of William McMurtrie of Potomac, and is the mother of four children. Mrs. Clemency (Morris) Albright died at her home in Ross Township in 1865.

Our subject contracted a second matrimonial alliance, Sept. 10, 1866, with Miss Mary M. Davis. This union resulted in the birth of two children—Orrie Lulu and Lilly Belle. The elder is the wife of William Cunningham of Rossville and the younger remains with her parents. Mrs. Mary M. (Davis) Albright was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, February, 1836, and is the daughter of Amaziah Davis, who came to this county at an early day and became one of its most prominent farmers and citizens.

David Albright, the father of our subject, was a native of Pennsylvania, whence he removed to Ohio when quite young. He was there married to


Plat of 106 Acres. in Sec. 8. T. 20 - R. 13
240 Acres. Sec. 9.
80. Acres. Sec. 10.
40 Acres Timber. Sec. 35. T. 21. R. 13.
120. Acres Sec, 10.
Plat of 60. Acres. in Sec. 20. T. 20. R. 13.
Plat of Home Farm, 520. Acres. in Sec's. 9. - 10 & 15. T. 20. N. - R. 13. W.
Pilot Township, Vermilion Co. Illinois.
80. Acres Sec, 15.

Miss Phebe Newman and they reared a family of nine children. Upon leaving the Buckeye State they settled in Frankfort, Ind., where the father died some years ago. The mother subsequently came to this county and made her home with our subject until her death.

WILLIAM H. PRICE, the son of an early settler of Vermilion County, may also be denominated as one of its pioneers, as he had a hand in developing its great agricultural resources and assisted in laying the foundations of its wealth and high standing among its sister counties. He is to-day one of the foremost farmers and stock raisers of Pilot Township, and is a man of considerable importance in the public life of this community. He has a large farm of over 700 acres of well-improved land, comprising sections 8, 9 and 10, whose broad fields are under high cultivation,and which is amply supplied with roomy, conveniently arranged, well made buildings, and all the appliances for facilitating farm work, while everything about the place betokens order and superior management.

Mr. Price was born in Pike County, Ohio, July 4, 1827. His father, Robert Price, was a native of Lexington, Ky., born of pioneer parents July 29, 1788. The grandparents were from Wales and England. They removed to Pike County, Ohio when the father of our subject was a lad of nine years, and there he grew to maturity and married Miss Nancy Howard, a native of Ohio. Her parents came from England to that part of the country in the early days of its settlement. She was born Feb. 27, 1 '93 and died in middle life, Dec. 22, 1842, some years after the removal of the family to this county, which occurred in 1830. She and her husband were early pioneers of this section of the country.

The father died Jan. 6, 1850, in Vermilion County, Ill. They were the parents of four children, of whom our subject is the only survivor. The others were Lloyd H., Drusilla, and Jerusha. Lloyd married Minerva Howard, of Pike County, Ohio, whose parents came to Vermilion County in an early day, and to them (Lloyd and wife) were born nine children, namely: William, Robert, Thomas, Sarah, Nancy, Frank, Lloyd, May, and George. Drusilla was the wife of Joseph Dalay, of Vermilion County, now deceased, and they left one child, Nancy, who became the wife of David Claypole, a farmer, and they have five children. Jerusha married Franklin Adams, of Vermilion County, now deceased, and they have three children—John L., William, and Samuel.

When our subject was brought to this county, a child of three years, it was a wild waste of prairie, and the settlers at that time thought that the land away from the streams where the timber grew was worthless for settlement, so they confined themselves to the banks of the creeks and rivers. He grew to a strong manhood in the pioneer life that obtained at that day, and early became independent and self-supporting. Having determined to make farming his life work, he entered 200 acres of prairie land from the Government, as his keen discernment foresaw the worth of the rich and fertile soil to the intelligent and enterprising young farmer. After his marriage in 1850, he erected a house and commenced the task of upbuilding his present desirable home. He is still living on the land that he purchased from the Government, and has added more to it as his means have allowed till he owns one of the largest farms in the neighhood, comprising, as before mentioned over 700 acres of choice land. He has besides helped to establish his children in life by giving them land. He does a general farming business, raising all kinds of stock, making a speciality of breeding Short-horn cattle, of which he has a herd of sixteen thoroughbreds, besides all other kinds of stock usually found on a model farm.

Mr. Price and Mary A. Cazatt were united in marriage in 1850. She was born in Mercer County, Ky., July 4, 1833, to Henry and Susan (Gritten) Cazatt, native of the same county, her father was born about 1808 and her mother Dec. 4, 1810. Mrs. Prices's grandparents were Irish and Dutch. They were pioneers of Vermilion County, coming here in 1837, and here they spent their remaining years, the father dying in 1841, and the mother in

1878, aged sixty-three years. Mrs. Price has one own sister—Minerva J., who married Otho Allison, a resident of this county. The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of six children—Jerusha J., Lloyd H., Emily M., Charles R., Alice N., Emma B., the latter is deceased. Jerusha married Henry J. Helmick, a farmer of this county, and they have two children —Charles and William E. Lloyd H., a farmer, married Mary J. Snyder, of this county. Emily married Guy C. Howard, a merchant in Armstrong, this county. Charles R., a farmer, married Della Hatfield, of this county, and they have one child—Everett Lloyd. Alice married Berry Duncan, a farmer of this county, and they have one child, Lola.

Mr. Price is a noble type of our self-made men, who while building up a fortune for themselves have been instrumental in advancing the material interests of the county. He, and his wife are leading members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has held the office of Steward and Trustee. He has held the office of Highway Commissioner for twelve years. He is prominently identified with the A. F. & A. M. order, and is a Master Mason. In politics, he is a thorough and consistent Republican. He has served with credit on the juries of the State and county.

Mr. and Mrs. Price have some valuable heirlooms, which they highly prize, in the old bibles of their fathers and mothers.

A fine lithographic view of the country residence and surroundings of Mr. and Mrs. Price appears in the ALBUM, and represents a home of which the owners are justly proud.

LUTHER TILLOTSON, Supervisor of Pilot Township, and one of its most intelligent and influential public officials, is closely connected with its material interests as a practical agriculturist, owning and profitably managing a good farm on section 30. He was born in Warren County, Ind., Aug. 13, 1849, a son of E. B. and Mary A. (Cronkhite) Tillotson. His father was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., Dec. 8, 1811, and his father, Luther Tillotson, was a native of New York. The mother of our subject was born in Hamilton, Ohio, Dec. 26, 1816. During some period of their lives the parents of our subject settled in Indiana, and of their marriage twelve children were born, and the following is recorded of the nine now living: Sarah A. married Edward Foster, a farmer living near Armstrong, this county, and they have seven children. Rebecca married Jeremiah Butts, who lives retired in Potomac, and they have six children. James M., a stock dealer and farmer in Calcasien Parish, La., married Mary J. Goodwine, and they have three children. Buell, a farmer of Pilot Township, married Elizabeth Wiles, and they have one child. Walter B., a farmer of Pilot Township, married Lucetta Endicott. Frances married J. A. Knight, a farmer of this county, and they have four children. William M., a farmer of this county, married Millie French, and they have three children. Mary A. married Frank H. Henry, who is living retired in Armstrong Village, and they have two children. Luther is the subject of this sketch. [For parental history see sketch of Buell Tillotson.]

Our subject came this county in 1856 with his parents. His father is deceased; his mother resides in this county. Mr. Tillotson and Mary E. Myrick were united in the holy bonds of matrimony September, 1871, and five children complete their happy household—Bertie, Alden, Cora E., Luther E., and Charles. Mrs. Tillotson was born in Illinois Sept. 15, 1853, and is a daughter of Thomas P. and Susanah (Firebaugh) Myrick, natives of Ohio and Indiana respectively. They came from the Buckeye State to this and settled in Pilot Township at an early day.

After marriage Mr. Tillotson rented land for eleven years and carried it on to such good advantage that at the expiration of that time he had money enough to invest in eighty acres of improved land, which forms his present farm. He has his land well tilled, and it is capable of yielding large crops in repayment for the care bestowed upon it, and Mr. Tillotson has a neat and well ordered set of buildings for every needful purpose. He is doing well from a financial standpoint, has his farm

stocked with cattle of good grade as many as it will carry, and displays commendable enterprise in the management of his interests.

Mr. Tillotson brings a well trained mind to bear on his work and fully understands how to perform it so as to obtain the best results, which is the secret of his success. His fellow-citizens, feeling that in a man of his education, of sound and sensible views on all subjects, the township would find a superior civic official who would promote its highest interests, have called him to some of the most responsible offices within their gift, and his whole course in public life has justified their selection. He has been Supervisor for six years, and was re-elected to that office this spring, and he has also been Assessor for one term, besides having held the office of Justice of the Peace for eight years. In politics he is a true Republican, although he performs his official duties without regard to party affiliations.

AARON DALBY. The late Civil War developed some rare characters, the depths of which would probably never have been disturbed had it not been for this revolution which shook the country from turret to foundation stone. There were then brought to the surface that God-given quality—the love of the true man for his native land—and the extent of the sacrifices which he was willing to make to save her from dismemberment. Among all those who are written of in this volume there was probably no truer patriot during the war than Aaron Dalby, and he justly esteems the period of his life spent in the Union Army as one of the brightest spots in his whole career. We give this matter prominence because it is a subject dear to his heart and he has lost none of the patriotic affection which enabled him a quarter of a century ago to lay aside all personal ties and give his best efforts to the preservation of the Union. We now find him comfortably located in a quiet country home, embracing a well-regulated farm on section 11, in Vance Township, where, since the war, he has gathered around him all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

In reverting to the family history of our subject we find that his father, James Dalby, was a native of Pennsylvania, a carpenter by trade and in politics an old line Whig. He married Miss Sarah Sewell, a native of Ohio, April 4, 1820, the wedding taking place in Clinton County, that State. They lived there about fourteen years, Mr. Dalby engaged as a groceryman, a farmer and an hotelkeeper, conducting the old-fashioned country tavern after the most approved methods of those times.

About this time the lead mines near Dubuque were being opened up and the demand for carpenters was great, so the father of our subject removed thither with his family in 1835, purposing to work at his trade. He found the times very hard and the country peopled largely with desperate characters, among whom a murder was committed nearly every night. This state of things made it impossible for him to remain and so he established himself at Quincy, Ill., where he lived three years and worked at his trade. He then returned to Ohio, where he sojourned two years and from there removed to Peru Ind., but only remained there eight months. In August, 1843, he came to this county and on the 19th of October following passed from earth at the age of fifty-three years. He was a well educated man and especially fine penman.

The mother of our subject survived her first husband for the long period of nearly forty-eight years. She was born March 12, 1803, and died Feb. 26, 1885, when nearly eighty-two years old. The parental household was completed by the birth of six children, four of whom are living. Aaron, our subject, was the fourth in order of birth and was born in Clinton County, Ohio, April 25, 1831. He attended school at Quincy, Ill., and also in Ohio a short time and in Indiana, and came to this county in time to avail himself of instruction in the subscription schools here. Being the eldest son, he, after the death of his father, naturally in due time assumed many responsibilities, and at the age of twelve years worked out for $3 per month, six months, from spring until fall. The year fol-

lowing he was employed by the same man, with an increase of salary of $1 per month.

The mother of our subject was married a second time to James Elliott. Our subject was bound out for a term of six years to Alvin Stearns. Becoming dissatisfied with the arrangement he served out only half his time and went to Ohio to learn a trade. He came back to Illinois, however, a year later and employed himself at whatever he could find to do, being at one time the partner of Aaron Hardin in splitting rails and cord-wood. Their best week's work was forty-eight cords of wood, cut, split and piled, and this was done at twenty-five cents per cord, when rails were forty-five cents per 100.

The next most important event in the life of our subject was his marriage, which occurred Dec. 23, 1854, with Miss Martha E. Custer. The newly wedded pair commenced the journey of life together at the old Custer homestead, which is now the property of our subject, and Mr. Dalby thereafter farmed on rented land until the outbreak of the Civil War. In 1862 he went one day to assist a neighbor with his work and when he came back with his pitchfork over his shoulder his attitude and bearing were such that his wife exclaimed when she saw him coming, "there, I bet he is going to the war." He entered the house and asked for some clothing, and in ten minutes was off for Homer, and joining some of his comrades repaired with them to Camp Butler and enlisted in Company E, 73d Illinois Infantry.

Mr. Dalby accompanied his regiment to the front and first engaged in the battle of Perryville, Oct. 8, 1862. In the early part of the engagement he was in the front line of battle and had only discharged six or seven shots when a rebel bullet struck him in the right side of the abdomen, passing through the upper lobe of the liver and came out at the right of the spine, grazing the point of one of the vertebræ. The ball before entering his body struck the cap box on his belt, passed through the box and his belt, through his coat, the waistband on his pants then through his body and returning cut through the waistband and "body belt" and knocked the handle off the butcher knife on his belt, leaving the blade in its scabbard and glanced off to the rear. He pulled out of the wound a bunch of the wood from his cap box, some cotton-batting from his coat and a metal primer which he carried in the box. He was taken to the field hospital and a rubber tube pulled through his body twice: He was then conveyed to the Perryville General Hospital, where he remained until October 1863, and was then transferred to New Albany, Ind. He was discharged from the hospital there, Jan. 20, 1864.

Mr. Dalby now returned to his family and although he has been almost wholly disabled for work since that time he declares he is ready to fight the battle over again if the occasion arises. He and his excellent wife have no children of their own, but have performed the part of parents to a boy and girl, the former the son of a comrade of Mr. Dalby, who was discharged from the army for disability and died. The boy Joe H. Summers, became an inmate of their home at the age of seven years and remained there until twenty-one. He is now married and lives in Mendon, Neb. The girl Mary J. Custer was taken by them when but eleven months old and is still with them, now grown to womanhood.

It is hardly necessary to say in view of his war record that Mr. Dalby, politically, is a decided Republican. He had two brothers in the army, one of whom, Albert, enlisted in Company C. 25th Illinois Infantry and at Murfreesboro was wounded through the wrist and arm. At the expiration of his first term of enlistment he entered the veteran reserve corps from which he was honorably discharged. Another brother, William H. H., the youngest of the family, was born in 1840 and enlisted in Company D, 63d Illinois Infantry. He was killed by the explosion of a magazine at Columbia, S. C., Feb. 19, 1865, being terribly mangled and blown into a river. He had strength, however, to swim ashore and was taken to the hospital where he died. He had been promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Mr. Dalby has officiated as Road Overseer and is a member of Homer Post No. 263, G. A. R.

Jacob M. Custer, the father of Mrs. Dalby, was, with his wife, Elizabeth Ocheltree, a native of Virginia. They came to Illinois in 1849 settling in

this county, but later removed to Champaign County, where the death of Mr. Custer took place, Sept. 17, 1865. His widow subsequently married John L. Myers who has since died, and Mrs. Myers is now living at Homer at the ripe age of seventy-nine years. She is the mother of nine children, six of whom are living and of whom Mrs. Dalby was next to the eldest. She was born Sept. 4, 1836, in Fayette County Ohio, received a fair education and was married at the age of eighteen years. She is a very estimable lady of more than usual benevolence and is a member of the Homer Woman's Relief Corps, No. 69. She was at one time President of this body and was presented with a very fine gold badge as Past President by the members of her corps as a token of their appreciation of her worth and services. She has never missed a meeting, either regular or special since its organization, in April, 1887. In religious matters, she belongs to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Dalby during the days of his early manhood was an expert hunter and has brought down many a deer in this county. He is naturally possessed of great courage and bearing, but is uniformly kind-hearted to all except the enemies of his country.

JOHN COLE. The bold, hardy, intelligent sons of New England have borne a prominent part in the settlement of the great West, and as a noble type of these, one who was a pioneer of Vermilion County in early days, we are pleased to present to the readers of this work a review of the life of the gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch.

In the pleasant spring month of May, 1837, just fifty-two years ago, our subject, then in the prime and vigor of early manhood, twenty-two years of age, left his native home among the beautiful hills of Vermont to see if life held anything better for him on the broad prairies of this then far Western State, animated doubtless, by the pioneer spirit that caused some remote ancestor to leave his English cot and seek a new home on this side of the Atlantic, and still later caused one of his descendants, in turn, to journey to the Green Mountain State on the same quest. In that day the trip contemplated by our subject was a great undertaking, it being but slow traveling before railways spanned the continent, and many days and weeks even passed before he reached his destination. He went first with a team to Troy, and thence by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, expecting to proceed on his journey from there on the lakes, but the ice prevented further passage after the boat had gone thirty miles on Lake Erie. His next course was to hire a man to take him in a wagon to Chicago, paying him $10. There he saw a little city, or village, rather, situated in a low swamp, from which the frogs would venture to sun themselves on the narrow plank walks till some passing pedestrian disturbed their repose and caused them to jump into the water. There were no indications that one day that spot was to be the site of one of the largest and finest cities on the continent. From there Mr. Cole proceeded on foot to the fertile and beautiful valley of the Fox River, and after tarrying there a few days to visit some old friends he walked on to Vermilion County. He loaned what money he had taking a mortgage on a piece of land which was encumbered by a prior mortgage, and he soon had to buy the land in order to save his money. The summer of 1838, was noted among the early settlers as the sickly season, and almost everybody was ill, but Mr. Cole's fine constitution withstood the attacks of disease and he remained sound and healthy. Our subject found here the virgin prairie and primeval forest scarcely disturbed by the few pioneers that had preceded him; there were still traces of the aboriginal settlers of the country, and deer, wolves, and other wild animals had not fled before the advancing step of civilization. Settlements were few and scattering, and Chicago and New Orleans were the most accessible markets, the only way to the former city being over rough roads by team, and to the latter by flatboat, via the Vermilion, Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Mr. Cole frequently sent produce to those cities but did not journey there himself. He was one of the first wool growers in the county, but experienced much difficulty in raising sheep in the early days here on account of the wolves that would frequently kill

some of his flock in sight of the house. He had a small horse that was an expert jumper and mounted on that animal Mr. Cole pursued the wolves and killed many of them. He commenced with forty-nine sheep and finally had a large flock, numbering 2,200 of a fine breed. He invested in real estate here and engaged in farming, and in course of years met with more than ordinary success in his calling and became a large land owner, and now has 1,360 acres of fine land, divided into three farms. The one on which he resides on sections 19 and 20, is one of the choicest in the county.

We must now go back to the early history of our subject, and refer to his birth and ancestry. He was born in the pretty town of Shaftsbury, Bennington Co., Vt., May 27, 1815, a son of Uriah Cole, a native of the same county and town. Parker Cole, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Rhode Island, of English ancestry. When he was sixteen years old his parents moved to the wilds of Vermont, before the Revolutionary War, the removal being made with one yoke of oxen and one cow, they were guided by marked trees for twenty miles, the road from Williamstown, Mass., being a mere trail. The grandfather of our subject spent his remaining days in the Green Mountain State, buying a tract of timbered land, from which he cleared a farm, and he at one time owned 1,000 acres of land. For some time the nearest market was at Williamstown, Mass., twenty miles away, and Troy, N. Y., thirty-two miles distant was also a market town. The maiden name of the grandmother of our subject was Mollie Nash, and she was also a native of Rhode Island. She frequently told her grandchildren the story of their removal to Vermont, and how when she forded the Connecticut River, the water was so deep that the pony on which she rode had to swim. She died in the eighty-fourth year of her age, on the old homestead, and now lies beside her husband in the cemetery at Shaftsbury. The father of our subject was reared in his native town, and after he had grown to man's estate his father gave him a farm in Shaftsbury, and he bought other land till he had about 400 acres. He spent his entire life in his birthplace, dying there when about sixty years of age. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Nancy Barton, and she was also a native of Shaftsbury, coming of good old New England stock. Her father, Garner Barton, was a native of Rhode Island, and in early life was a sailor. He was a pioneer of Shaftsbury and buying land he engaged in farming and also built and operated a tannery. He was a resident there till his demise at the advanced age of ninety-six years. The maternal grandmother of our subject died on the home farm at the venerable age of ninety-four years. She was a Quaker. The mother of our subject was reared and spent her entire life among the green hills of Vermont in the town of Shaftsbury. There were seven children born of her marriage, namely: Hiram, living in North Bennington, Vt.; John; Almira, who married George Clark, and died two years later; Elizabeth, who died in infancy; James B., living in Vermilion County; Mary, wife of Jonathan C. Houghton, of North Bennington, Vt.; George Byron died in Shaftsbury.

The subject of this sketch grew to man's estate in the home of his birth, gleaning his education in the public schools, and as soon as large enough he assisted on the farm until he came West as before mentioned. In the summer of 1839 he returned to Vermont, and in the following December he was married to Miss Aurelia Miranda Huntington, and at once started with his bride for his new home in the Western wilds; traveling with a horse and a covered wagon, they arrived in Vermilion County six weeks and three days later. There was an unfinished frame house on his land on sections 29 and 30, Danville Township, and in that he and his bride commenced housekeeping. He resided there about nineteen years, and then rented his farm and moved to Elwood Township where he improved a large farm, and made his home there till 1877. Then leaving his son in charge he went to Shelbyville, Ill., where he bought property, and was a resident of that city till 1882, when he bought the farm on which he now resides in Danville Township.

Mr. Cole has been married three times. The wife of his early manhood died in January, 1847, leaving one child, Miranda S., now the wife of James McKee, of Danville. Mr. Cole's second marriage, which occurred in 1850, was to Miss Nancy Weaver, a native of Brown County, Ohio, a daugh-

ter of Michael and Mary Weaver. She died about 1863, leaving one son, Henry J., who lives on the Ridge farm in Elwood Township. Mr. Cole was married to his present wife Sue Patterson, and to them have come one child, Mary Edith.

Our subject can look back over a long life that has been wisely spent, and his record is that of an honorable, upright man, whose high personal character has made him an influence for good in the county where he has made his home for over half a century, and with whose interests his own are so closely allied that in acquiring wealth he has furthered its material prosperity. In politics he is a Democrat.

ANDREW J. SINKHORN, Supervisor of Blount Township, with whose agricultural and milling interests he is connected as a practical, wide-awake farmer and skillful miller, owning and operating a sawmill, is a fine type of the citizen-soldiers of our country, who saved the Union from dissolution in the trying times of the Great Rebellion, and since then have quietly pursued various vocations and professions, and have been important factors in bringing this country to its present high status as one of the greatest and grandest nations on earth. In the early days of the war our subject went forth with his brave comrades to fight his country's battles, he being then but nineteen years of age, a stalwart, vigorous youth, and he consecrated the opening years of his manhood to the cause for which he was ready to give up even life itself, if need be. Notwithstanding his youthfulness, he displayed the qualities of a true soldier, and in course of time was promoted from the ranks.

Andrew Sinkhorn, the father of our subject, was born in Virginia. During some period of his life he went to Kentucky, and was there married to Frances Shannon, a native of that State, and they began their wedded life there in Boyle County, and there their useful lives were rounded out in death. They had a family of nine children, of whom our subject was the eighth in order of birth. Dec. 3, 1842, he was born in his parents' pleasant home in Boyle County, Ky. He was reared on a farm, and his education was obtained in the common schools. Aug. 12, 1861, his heart beating high with youthful ardor and patriotism, he entered upon his career as a soldier, enlisting at that date in Company A, 4th Kentucky Infantry, and had four years experience of life on the battlefield or in rebel prisons. He took an active part in the battles of Chicaumauga and Mill Springs, Ky., and in the latter contest lost a part of his index finger. He was at Perryville, Ky., Mission Ridge, and Atlanta, and while near the latter city he was captured by the rebels, and was held for seven months, during which time he was confined in Andersonville, and later in Florence, S. C., suffering all the horrors and hardships of life in rebel prisons. His steady courage and heroic actions in the face of the enemy, and his obedience to his superiors, won him their commendation, and he received deserved promotion from the ranks to the position of Sergeant. After the close of the war he was mustered out of the service and honorably discharged.

After his bitter experience of military life Mr. Sinkhorn returned to his old Kentucky home and engaged in farming in Boyle County the ensuing two years. In the spring of 1869 he decided that he could do still better in his chosen calling on the rich soil of Illinois, and coming to Vermilion County, he settled in Blount Township, and has resided here and in Ross Township since that time, engaging both in agricultural pursuits and in milling with great success, and he is justly classed among the most substantial citizens of the township.

Mr. Sinkhorn has been three times married. He was first married in his native county, to Jemima Ann Cozatt, who was also a native of Boyle County. After the birth of one child that died in infancy, she passed away in her native county. Mr. Sinkhorn's second marriage was to Emily J. Sexton, they having been wedded in Ross Township, this county. March 28, 1880, she departed this life. She was a sincere and active member of the Christian Church. Four children were born of that marriage—William H., Edward E., Jesse O., and Anna M. The maiden name of Mr. Sinkhorn's present wife, to whom he was united in Blount

Township, was Mary E. Pilkington, and she was the widow of John Pilkington, and daughter of William Gritton. Two children have been born of this marriage, Ida E. and Girtie.

Since coming to this township Mr. Sinkhorn has proved a useful citizen, and a valuable addition to the citizenship of the place. He takes an active part in the administration of public affairs, and in every way manifests an earnest desire to promote the highest interests of the community. His pleasant, genial disposition has made him popular with his fellow-townsmen, and, what is better, he enjoys their confidence. He was elected Constable of Blount Township, and served to the satisfaction of his constituents seven years. In the spring of 1886 he was elected Supervisor of the township, held the office one year, and in the spring of 1889 was again selected for this important office, and is still an incumbent thereof. He has a deeply religious nature, and in him the Free Methodist Church has one of its most esteemed members, and at the present time he is Class-Leader.

REV. THOMAS COX was born Aug. 6, 1829, in Lawrence County, Ky. He is the son of John and Polly Cox, the former of whom was born in Lawrence County, June 22, 1799, while his wife, Polly (Markham) Cox, first saw the light at the same place on Feb. 17, 1817. John Cox served in the War of 1832 known as the Black Hawk War, and was the father of six children, Thomas being the fourth child.

John Cox and family came to this county in 1829, settling six miles west of Danville on the Middle Fork, where he followed, with a large degree of success, the occupation of a carpenter, and also owned a fine farm. He died on May 23, 1846, universally respected by all his acquaintances. Politically he was a Democrat. Both he and his wife belonged to the Baptist Church; the latter died on Sept. 2, 1851. This couple were among the original settlers of this county, and as such, went through all the vicissitudes that surround the pioneer. They were faithful in everything they undertook, and with them life was not a failure.

Thomas Cox, of whom this sketch is written, came to this county with his father when he was but six weeks old, and at the age of fifteen years his father died leaving him to make his own way in the world. He went into the unequal battle with a determination to win, and his endeavors have been met by success. He followed agricultural pursuits until he was twenty-two years old when he commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, which occupation he followed until 1867, when he purchased a farm in Newell Township and where he now resides. On Nov. 28, 1850 he was married to Susan Orr, daughter of John and Parthenia Orr, natives of Kentucky. They came to Indiana in a very early day and were united in marriage in Fountain County, that State. Mrs. Cox was born July 1, 1831, she being the fourth child of a family of twelve. She resided in Indiana until she became eighteen years of age, when she removed to Illinois with her parents, both of whom are dead. The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Cox are the parents of three children: William L., who is a farmer of this county, married Miss Kate Robinson; Martha J., is the wife of A. Clapp, who is engaged in farming in Newell Township, while David M. is the husband of Miss Sarah Bell. They are living on a farm in the same township.

Mr. Cox is the owner of 200 acres of good land which he cultivates with a large degree of success, and besides this he has given all his children a farm and has educated them as best he could in the public schools. This is one of the beauties of the system of American farming which makes it possible for the parent to start his children out in life with land enough to insure their comfort and even competence, and it is within the reach of every provident farmer to do this to a large or small extent. The industry that Mr. Cox inherited has been the keynote to his success. In 1886 he was ordained as a regular minister of the gospel of the Regular Baptist Church. Before his ordination as a minister, he was actively and intelligently engaged in religious work, a fact which led him up to occupy a pulpit.

Mr. Cox has served his township as a Commis-

Fraternally
John W. Turner

sioner of Highways and School Treasurer, filling these offices with rare fidelity and intelligence. He has always taken great interest in educational matters and has consequently aided his neighborhood in having the best of schools. Politically he acts with the Democratic party, but since entering ministerial work he does not take much interest in political questions. As a Christian worker Mr. Cox is very zealous. He preaches every Sabbath either at home or on a circuit, which comprises Crawfordsville, Ind., Big Shawnee and Stony Creek. The record of Mr. Cox as a citizen and a preacher is of the very best.

JOHN W. TURNER, M.D., Mayor of Fairmount and a practicing physician of first-class standing, has been a resident of this city since 1881. He occupies one of the finest residences in the place, and there are few men more widely or favorably known in the township. He has been prominent in politics and religion — a leading light in the Republican party and an earnest laborer in the Sunday-school, the friend of temperance and the uniform supporter of all those measures instituted to elevate society and benefit the people.

In referring to the parental history of our subject, we find that he is a son of John T. Turner, a native of Maryland, who married Miss Catherine Shane, a native of Virginia. Soon after marriage the parents settled in Warren County, Ohio, then removed to Clay County, Ind. The father was a wagon manufacturer, and the household circle in due time included eight children, four sons and four daughters. Of these John W. was the seventh child. He was born in Clay County, Ind., March 24, 1839, and there spent the days of his boyhood and youth, pursuing his early studies in the common schools.

The subsequent years of Dr. Turner until a man of twenty-six were occupied mostly as a medical student. Then determined to see something of the country in which he lived, he started over the plains to Oregon, crossed the Mississippi at Omaha and soon afterward bidding farewell to the haunts of civilization, journeyed on the north side of the Platte River, through Nebraska, Wyoming, Idaho and on to Oregon. He reached Portland six months after leaving home. During the trip the party had numerous engagements with the Sioux Indians, one very serious among the Black Hills.

Besides the Indians the Doctor met men from most all parts of every country during his tour in the wild West, and learned many interesting facts in connection therewith and the habits of life on the frontier, besides having an opportunity to view some of the most wild and romantic scenery in the world. We next find him officiating as a pedagogue in Oregon for six months. He had already made up his mind to adopt the medical profession, and at the expiration of this time entered the medical department of Willamette University, Oregon, from which he was graduated with honors in 1872. He commenced the practice of his profession at Vancouver, Wash., where he sojourned four years. Here occurred the first great affliction of his life in the loss of his estimable wife, which occurred in 1876. Soon afterward he returned to this State and was located in Oakland, Coles County, for five years.

In 1881 Dr. Turner took up his residence in Fairmount, where he has made all arrangements to spend at least the greater part of his life. He has a most pleasant and attractive home, a fine and growing practice and apparently everything to make existence desirable. He was first married in 1861 to Miss Harriet N., daughter of Judge William E. Smith, of Toledo, Cumberland County, this state. Of this union there were born four children, the eldest of whom, a son, Alva M., married Miss Phœba A. Reese, and is employed in the drug-store of Lamon & Lamon, of Fairmount; his wife died April 25, 1889, of apoplexy; Sharon C. is doing a large business as a contractor at Ocean Beach, Pacific Co., Wash. He is unmarried; Nancy C. is the wife of Edward Busby and lives seven miles south of Fairmount; they have no children; William E. was accidentally killed on the railroad track west of the depot, April 18, 1885, at the age of thirteen years. Mrs. Harriet N. (Smith) Turner

departed this life at her residence, in Vancouver, Wash., in January, 1876.

Dr. Turner contracted a second marriage in April, 1877, with Miss Eliza J. Hoagland, foster daughter of John S. Cofer, of Arcola, Ill., the wedding taking place at Paris. This union resulted in the birth of two children, John W. and Mary, both living with their father and attending school. The mother died April 30, 1884. On the 10th of July, 1884, the Doctor was married to Miss Mary E. Mills, one of the leading lady teachers of Vermilion County. Mrs. Turner is a lady of more than ordinary accomplishments and stands high in the social circles of the community. The Doctor and his wife with the elder children are all connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Dr. Turner is a member of the Official Board and Vice-president of the Township Sunday-school Association, which latter office he has held for the last three years. He gives much time to the religious instruction of the young, a subject in which he has entertained a lifelong interest.

At the last election for the city offices, Dr. Turner was reelected President of the Board of Aldermen, receiving, with the exception of eleven, all of the votes cast for this office. He is a pronounced Republican with broad and liberal ideas, and belongs to the A. F. & A. M., being Master of the lodge at Fairmount for four years in succession. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen, in which Order he is Medical Examiner and holds the same position in connection with eight life insurance companies doing business in this state. As may be supposed, his practice and his official duties absorb a large portion of his time, but he still finds the opportunity to indulge occasionally in hunting and fishing, in which he is an expert and of which sports he is excessively fond. The temperance cause finds in him one of its firmest advocates. Genial and companionable by nature, he is one naturally making hosts of friends. As an orator he possesses talents of no mean order, and is frequently called upon to address political, religious and other meetings. There are always a few men who must lead in a community, and Dr. Turner, of Fairmount, is an admirable representative of this class of the community. Therefore we are pleased to present to the readers of this volume a splendid portrait of Dr. Turner, as perpetuating the features of one honored and esteemed by all, and the present incumbent of the most important official position in Fairmount.

GEORGE W. SMITH, who lives on section 31 in Grant Township, Vermilion County, has resided here but six years. He formerly resided in Champaign County, Ill. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, July 11, 1833, his parents being John C. and Azenith (Lewis) Smith, the former a native of Delaware and the latter of Pennsylvania.

The parents of John C. Smith died in Delaware when he was quite young, and at the age of twenty-one years, in 1808, he emigrated to what was then considered the Far West. He was a carpenter by trade, and located at what is now the capital of Ohio, Columbus, then known as Franklin. There he put on the first shingle roof ever constructed in that locality. He was still there when the War of 1812 broke out, and he enlisted in the army under Capt. Sanderson, of Lancaster, Ohio. He served during the entire time of the war, and received for his services two warrants, each entitling him to eighty acres of land. He was with the army at Detroit, and there endured the hardships suffered by that part of the army during that trying period. At the conclusion of the war Mr. Smith returned to Lancaster, staying there for two or three years. He never located his land warrants, which he did not receive for many years, but sold them to another party. In 1819 he settled on a farm on the line that separates Fairfield and Pickaway counties, Ohio, and there lived for the remainder of his life, dying May 21, 1857, in his seventy-first year, having been born March 10, 1787. He was married in Fairfield County, in 1819, to Mrs. Azenith Julian, widow of Stephen L. Julian, by whom she had three children, one of whom yet survives, and is also named Stephen L., and who is now living near Marion, Grant Co., Ind., and is in his seventy-seventh

year. She owned and lived on the farm, where they afterward both died. Mrs. Smith was born May 24, 1788, and died Sept. 24, 1852, aged sixty-four years and four months. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were the parents of seven children, the following four being deceased: Rebecca L. was the wife of James M. Stewart, and died near Logan, Ohio; Eliza H. was married to Henry Dustman, and died at Beaver Dam, Wis.; Mary W., who was the wife of James S. McDowell, died at Tolona, Ill.; and Elizabeth S., who was married to John Burton, died also at that place. The survivors are: Hannah A., the wife of L. C. Burr, a furniture dealer in Tolona; Martha J. is living with the subject of this sketch, the latter being the youngest of the family.

George W. Smith was brought up on the home farm at Tarleton, Ohio, where he lived until he was twenty-five years of age. Both his parents being deceased, he sold the Ohio farm in 1858 and removed to Tolona, Ill., where he bought a farm, on which he lived until 1883, when he sold it and removed to his present home. His birthplace was in a hilly country, and the work in clearing and cultivating it was arduous. He, therefore, had long directed his attention to Illinois as a place where he could better his fortunes. When he came to Illinois he was accompanied by his three younger sisters, all remaining with him until the the marriage of the two eldest. Mr. Smith was united in marriage Feb. 14, 1865, to Miss Julia H. Lock, daughter of William and Hannah (Escot) Lock, natives of England, where Mrs. Smith was born March 20, 1842. Her parents emigrated to Canada when she was seven years old, and in 1864 settled in Champaign County, Ill. Both are now deceased, the mother dying in Canada of apoplexy while on a visit to a son living there, in 1874, aged sixty-eight. Her father died in Champaign County, in 1885, in his eighty-fourth year. Mr. Lock came to Canada alone in 1842, and bought a farm there, and then returned to England, where he remained for seven years, and then came back with his family. He made several changes there before coming to the United States, buying considerable property. He ultimately became a large land-owner, alone owning 1,500 acres in Champaign County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Lock had eleven children, all but one of whom are now living. William is a farmer in Canada; Louisa is the wife of Joseph Spettigue, of London, Canada; Henry is a farmer at Belmont, Canada; Eliza was the wife of Corelia Fields, and died in Canada; James is living at St. Thomas, Canada, where he is a boot and shoe dealer; Benjamin lives in Champaign County, Ill. Mrs. Smith was next in order of birth, then Daniel, a farmer in Marshall County, Kan. John is also a farmer at Philo, Ill., and Hattie is the wife of M. L. Brewer, a farmer in the same place. Frank was drowned while swimming, when eight years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have no children, but the child of his sister Rebecca L., Frank L. Stewart, has lived with them since he was four months old, having been adopted by his aunt, Miss Martha J. Smith. He was born in Logan, Hocking Co., Ohio, Jan. 30, 1857.

While living in Champaign County, Ill., Mr. Smith was a School Director for twenty-four years, and also Assessor for five consecutive terms. He also held the offices of Highway Commissioner, Treasurer and Clerk of the Board. He is now one of the School Directors of Vermilion County, and has been since the first year of his residence here. Mr. Smith has always sustained the character of an upright man, and the people who know him best are those who admire him most for his good qualities as a man and a neighbor.

LEWIS HOPPER. Among the notable characteristics in the makeup of this gentleman is his great self-reliance and the ability to take care of himself, which was evinced at an early age and when thrown among strangers. His life occupation has been that of farming, in which he has been eminently successful and from which it has been exceedingly difficult for him to make up his mind to retire, although he has now done so, and is comfortably established in a pleasant village home at Fairmount. Among the other fortunate things which befell him during his early manhood was the careful wife and mother who has stood by the side of her husband for these many

years, encouraging him in his worthy ambitions and ably assisting him in the struggle for a competence. They have lived happily together for many years and are now reaping a mutual enjoyment from the fruits of their early toil and sacrifices. Such have been their lives that they have commanded the esteem and confidence of the people wherever they have lived, bearing that reputation for solid work and reliability of character, which form the basis of all well regulated society.

In reviewing the antecedents of Mr. Hopper we find that his parents were Beverly and Sarah (Miller) Hopper, natives of Virginia and the father born in Culpeper County. They lived in the Old Dominion after their marriage until 1829, then changed their residence to the vicinity of Newark in Licking Co., Ohio. Later, they removed to Indiana, where they died after their nine children were married and scattered. Of these our subject, was the youngest born and six are still living. He first opened his eyes to the light in Virginia on the 13th day of February, 1827, and was a child in his mother's arms when they removed to the Buckeye State. He attended the subscription school and worked with his father on the farm until a youth of eighteen years.

Upon reaching his majority young Hopper began learning the carpenter's trade, but the failure of his employers soon threw him out of business and he returned to the farm. He was married in 1847 to Miss Margaret, daughter of Jacob Kinsey, of Peru, Ind., and lived in the Hoosier State until August, 1853. That year he came to this county with his little family and settled four miles north-east of Fairmount, residing there for a period of eleven years. He then sold out and purchased a farm five miles south-east of Fairmount and comprising 160 acres all prairie. He turned the first furrow there and effected all the other improvements which finally rendered it a valuable piece of property, and occupied it until their removal to the village.

The six children born to our subject and his first wife are recorded as follows: John married Miss Rebecca A. Carrington, is the father of three children and lives on a farm four miles south-east of Fairmount; Sarah is the wife of Joseph English, lives near Peru, Ind., and is the mother of one child; Susannah married George Darr and is the mother of four children; they live three miles south-west of Fairmount; Martha Jane, Mrs. Charles Pemberton, is the mother of four children and lives six miles south of Fairmount; Frank married Miss Cora Hall, is the father of one child and lives six miles south of Fairmount; Vina, Mrs. James Smith, is the mother of three children and lives near Peru, Ind. Mrs. Margaret (Kinsey) Hopper departed this life at the home farm in 1876.

Mr. Hopper contracted a second marriage March 27, 1880 with Mrs. Lou (Stansberry) Olmstead, daughter of Bonaparte and Jane (Wooden) Stansberry of Catlin this State. Mr. Stansberry was a farmer by occupation and the parental household included six children of whom Mrs. Hopper was the fifth in order of birth. She was born at Catlin, Jan. 27, 1842, and grew up amid the scenes of pioneer life, her parents having been early settlers of that region. Mr. Stansberry died when his daughter Lou was a young child. The mother is still living and is now aged seventy-seven years; she is a bright and intelligent old lady and takes delight in reviewing the scenes of her early life in Illinois to which her father came as early as 1812. She was present at the opening of the first court in Vermilion County.

Mrs. Hopper attended the common schools during her childhood days and was carefully trained by an excellent mother in those housewifely duties which have so much influence upon the happiness and comfort of a home. Although not belonging to any religious denomination Mr. and Mrs Hopper have made it the rule of their lives to do unto others as they would be done by, and among their neighbors and friends have maintained that kindly Christian character, which is the true index of an unselfish and benevolent heart. Their home is pleasantly situated at the east edge of Fairmount, where they have five acres of ground and a neat residence, erected in 1887. The year following Mr. Hopper put up a fine barn. He keeps some stock and pays special attention to the raising of swine. He has enough to keep himself comfortably busy without overtaxing his energies.

While not by any means a politician, Mr. Hop-

per keeps himself well informed upon State and National events and votes independently of any party. He has officiated as School Director and Trustee in his District, also as Road Overseer, fulfilling the duties of the latter office in an especially creditable manner. He identified himself with the A. F. & A. M. fraternity some years ago, and is connected with Fairmount Lodge No. 590.

JOHN F. McGEE has been a highly respected citizen of Blount Township since 1857, and is numbered among its prosperous farmers. He has a good, well-appointed farm on section 34, comprising eighty acres of well-tilled soil that yields him rich harvests in repayment for the care and skill that he expends in its cultivation. In the cosy home that he has built up here he and his wife are enjoying the comforts of life, and are well fortified against want and privation.

The father of our subject, William McGee, was a native of East Tennessee, born in one of its pioneer homes in the year 1807. He was bred to the life of a farmer, and in 1831 assumed the responsibilities of a domestic life, marrying Rebecca Hessey, daughter of John and Sarah Hessey. Some time after they removed to Missouri, and, after living in St. Louis awhile, they settled in Greene County. Twelve years later they went to Scott County, Ark., where the father bought a farm. They lived there only two years, however, and in 1852 departed for the Lone Star State. They staid but three years in Texas, in Cook County, when they again found themselves on the move, and, returning to Missouri, they settled in Newton County, on Shoal Creek, eleven miles above the Neosha (New Granby) lead mines. March 3, 1856, the father closed his earthly pilgrimage when scarce past the prime of life. His wife died in October, 1882. Of the ten children born to that worthy couple seven are now living, and he of whom we write was their fourth in order of birth. He was born during their residence in St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 19, 1839. Shortly afterward his parents removed to Greene County, that State, and there, as soon as old enough, he was sent to a subscription school, which was conducted in a rude log cabin without a floor, and with rough logs for benches, wooden pins in the ends serving as legs.

Our subject accompanied his parents in their various removals to and fro, and, being a lad of intelligence and observation, profited by what he saw of the country. He remained an inmate of the parental household till the year of his father's death (1856), and then, in 1857, came to Vermilion County and to this township. Being pleased with the country around here, and the facilities offered to an industrious, brainy, young farmer, he decided to locate here permanently, and, with that end in view, two years later bought his present farm. In the years of hard labor that have followed his settlement here Mr. McGee has greatly increased the original value of his farm, and has brought it under good cultivation. He has it amply provided with the necessary buildings, and everything about the place is in good order, and betokens thrift and neatness on the part of the owner.

Mr. McGee has been twice married. In 1860 he was wedded to Sarah Jane Watson, daughter of James Watson. She was a truly estimable woman, and made a good wife and a true helpmate. In 1866 she closed her eyes in death, leaving three children as the fruit of her union—Rebecca Jane, Joseph Thomas, and Precious. The marriage of our subject with his present wife took place in 1874. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Hessey, and she is a daughter of Abram Hessey. Mrs. McGee is a true helpmate in every sense of the word, and of her pleasant married life four children have been born, two of whom died in infancy. The names of the others are Mary M. and Farris A.

During the thirty-two years that he has been a resident of Vermilion County, Mr. McGee has won the esteem and respect of all about him by his kind, obliging ways, and by his conscientious, upright conduct in all the affairs of life. He is a hard-working, capable man, and by persevering and well-directed labor has established himself comfortably. In politics he is a sound Democrat, and, religiously, is a consistent member of the Christian Church, known as the Campbellite

Church. He was elected Road Commissioner in 1886, and again in 1889, and is performing the duties of that office with credit to himself and to the advantage of the township.

WILLIAM JUDY. This gentleman bears the reputation of being one of the best farmers in Middle Fork Township, where where he has resided since about 1851. That year he came with his parents to this county from Hardy County, Va., the journey being made overland with teams and occupying thirty-one days. The father located a claim upon which there was a log cabin, and into it the family removed, and lived there several years. William was then a lad of thirteen years. Upon reaching manhood, he purchased a half section of land in sections 19 and 20, and by subsequent purchase 100 acres have been added to the original purchase. The elder Judy and his boys improved a good farm, and the father died in 1854, at the age of about sixty-two years. The mother is still living, making her home with her son Samuel, in Iroquois County, this State.

Our subject during his boyhood pursued his studies in a log cabin on the subscription plan, attending there two terms. Afterwards a regular schoolhouse was built at Wallace Chapel, about two miles from his home, which he also attended for a time. Later he prosecuted his studies in Danville. He distinctly remembers the time when this section of the country was a wild prairie, thinly settled, when deer and wolves were numerous, mill and market far away, and when the settlers endured many privations and hardships in the struggle to maintain existence.

Young Judy remained with his widowed mother until his marriage, in 1862, to Miss Nancy A. Wood. This lady was the daughter of Absalom and Melinda (Copeland) Wood, and the granddaughter of Henry A. Wood, a native of Virginia, who emigrated to this county and settled in Grant Township, when there was scarcely another white man within its limits. (Further notice will be found in the biography of Samuel Copeland in another chapter of this book.) Here he reared a large family and spent his last days. He was a man of great energy and industry, and improved a good farm from the wilderness. The father of Mrs. Judy was his eldest child, and also entered a tract of land from the Government, from which he built up a farm. The grandparents were members of the Methodist Church. Her great-great-grandfather Wood was born in England in 1739. Grandmother Wood's maiden name was Hoover.

The young couple took up their abode in the humble dwelling, and from that time on labored with the mutual purpose of making a home for themselves and their children. Their toils and sacrifices in due time met with a reward, and, in addition to developing his first land, Mr. Judy added to his possessions until he now has 420 broad acres, the greater part of which is enclosed with beautiful hedge fencing, neatly trimmed, and the land all in a high state of cultivation. A fine large dwelling has supplanted their first humble residence, and a barn and other necessary outbuildings, a flourishing apple orchard and the smaller fruit trees form a most attractive picture in the landscape.

There came in due time to the fireside of our subject and estimable wife, twelve children, who were named respectively: Lizzie Grant, now Mrs. F. M. Slusher; Frank L.; J. Milton; Charles; Annettie; Alta May; Robert Earl; Myrtie Florence; Fanny Clarinda; Wilber Wood; Mary Melinda; and Grace Ethel. They are all living, and form a remarkably bright and interesting group. Mr. and Mrs. Judy are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, attending Wallace Chapel.

Two brother of our subject, Ambrose and John, during the late Civil War enlisted in Company E, 51st Illinois Infantry. John was killed in the battle of Franklin, Tenn., and his friends have never been able to find his resting-place. All the male members of the family uniformly vote the Republican ticket. The father, Nicholas Judy, was the son of Martin Judy, who reared his family in Virginia, the State of his birth.

The father of our subject passed his boyhood and youth in the Old Dominion, and was married

to Miss Mary, daughter of Andrew and Mary Skidmore. To them was born a family of seventeen children: Jehu, John, Andrew, Rebecca, Isaac, Ellen, Amos, Elizabeth, William (our subject), Gabriel, Eve, Ambrose, Edward, Nannie, Samuel, and two who died in infancy. Eight of these children are living, and making their homes mostly in Illinois.

Our subject's grandfather, Andrew Skidmore, married Miss Mary Stonestreet, of Virginia. They were both born in that State. He was a farmer and stock dealer, and was the owner of slaves, and died at the age of eighty-four years. Grandmother Skidmore was a noble woman, and taught the first Sabbath-school ever held in that county.

Grandfather Martin Judy was of German ancestry and the father of twelve children, six boys and six girls. He was also a farmer and stock-raiser, and a member of the Lutheran Church. He lived and died in Pendleton Co., Va.

Great-grandfather John Skidmore, an English man by birth, married a German lady, Mary Hinkle.

Grandfather Stonestreet, on the mother's side, married Miss Williams, an English lady.

JESSE LEEKA, M.D. One would scarcely suppose upon meeting this gentleman that he has attained to nearly his threescore years, for he is still young looking and more than usually active. This has been the result of a correct life and temperate habits and exercising good care over "the house he lives in." He has been a resident of Oakwood Village since 1886 and is numbered among its most successful and prominent physicians, having built up a good patronage and accumulated a fair amount of this world's possessions.

The first thirty years of the life of our subject were spent in Clinton County, Ohio, where he was born May 19, 1830. He received a common school education and at the age of twenty years began his apprenticeship to the trade of a cabinet-maker, at which he worked in connection with farming for many years. At the age of twenty-five he was married, Feb. 2, 1855, to Miss Rebecca A., daughter of Francis B. Macy, of Indiana, and now residing in Kokomo, that state. Afterward the newly wedded pair settled in New Vienna, Ohio, of which the Doctor in due time became Mayor. Subsequently he resided in Rush County, Ind., where he was Constable and later in Howard County, that State, where he held the office of Coroner two terms. After the outbreak of the Civil War, he on the 12th of December, 1863, enlisted in Company E, 9th Indiana Cavalry and was detailed to serve in the Quartermaster's department. He was with his regiment all through Hood's campaign and in the engagement at Pulaski. He, however, saw little of active service but endured the hardships and privations incident to life in the army, was afflicted with rheumatism some time, and in October, 1864, had a severe attack of bilious remittent fever. After the close of the war he received his honorable discharge with the regiment, Aug. 28, 1865, at Vicksburg, Miss.

Dr. Leeka began the practice of his profession in the spring of 1876 at Jerome, Ind. Later he entered the medical college of Indianapolis, from which he was graduated in the class of 1878. He has practiced in Howard County, Ind., at Fairmount, this county, whence he came to Oakwood, and is the only established physician in this place, where he has property and a pleasant home.

The father of our subject was Philip Leeka, a native of Virginia, who in early life was taken by his parents to Washington County, Tenn., where he was reared to manhood. The paternal grandfather, Christian Leeka, was a native of Germany and crossed the Atlantic as one of the body of troops employed by the British Government to subjugate the American Colonists. Upon his arrival here Grandfather Leeka was ill and was confined in the hospital until after peace was declared. He settled in Southern Virginia and married an American lady of German parentage. In 1815 they removed to Clinton County, Ohio, where the grandfather died a few years later. Philip, the father of our subject, was the fifth of his seven children. Two of the older boys served under General Jackson in the Seminole War. One of them, Christian, Jr., died while in the service in

Florida. The other, Henry, after leaving the army settled in Randolph County, Ind., where he became a prominent citizen and served as Justice of the Peace for a period of eighteen years. He there spent the remainder of his life, passing away at a ripe old age.

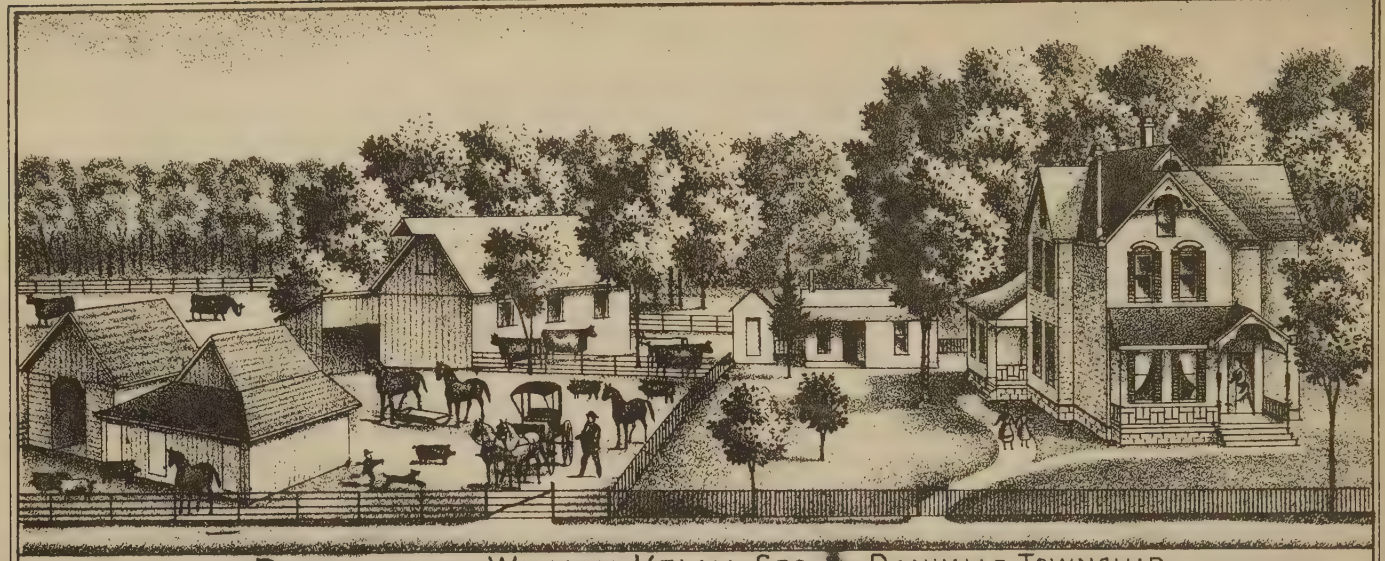
Philip Leeka was born March 21, 1799, and reared to farming pursuits. He acquired a good education and taught school considerably after his marriage. He maintained a warm interest in educational matters and officiated as a School Director in his district from the time of settling there until his decease. He was married in Clinton County, Ohio, in 1821, to Miss Elizabeth Hodson, who was of Quaker parentage and was born in North Carolina in 1797. The Hodson family emigrated to Clinton County, Ohio, about 1814. After their marriage the parents of our subject settled on a farm in that county, poor in purse but with strong hands and hopeful hearts, and after years of industry and economy, accumulated a good property including a fine farm. The mother passed away at the old homestead in 1842. Philip Leeka survived his wife forty-two years, his death taking place near New Vienna, in 1884, when he was quite aged. The household circle included ten children, nine of whom are still living, and of whom Jesse, our subject, was the fifth in order of birth.

To the Doctor and his first wife there were born five children, four sons and a daughter. The latter, Cora A., died when an interesting girl of twelve years. The sons are all living. Francis Edgar married Miss Sadie Sisson, and lives in St. Joe, Ill.; Charles Frederick married Miss Ida Aylesworth, and they live in Hebron, Ind. Of the four children born to them only one is living. William L. married Miss Mary Gibson, is the father of three children, and lives in Durango, Col.; Daniel Cary is unmarried and a resident of Danville. Mrs. Rebecca A. Leeka departed this life April 14, 1873.

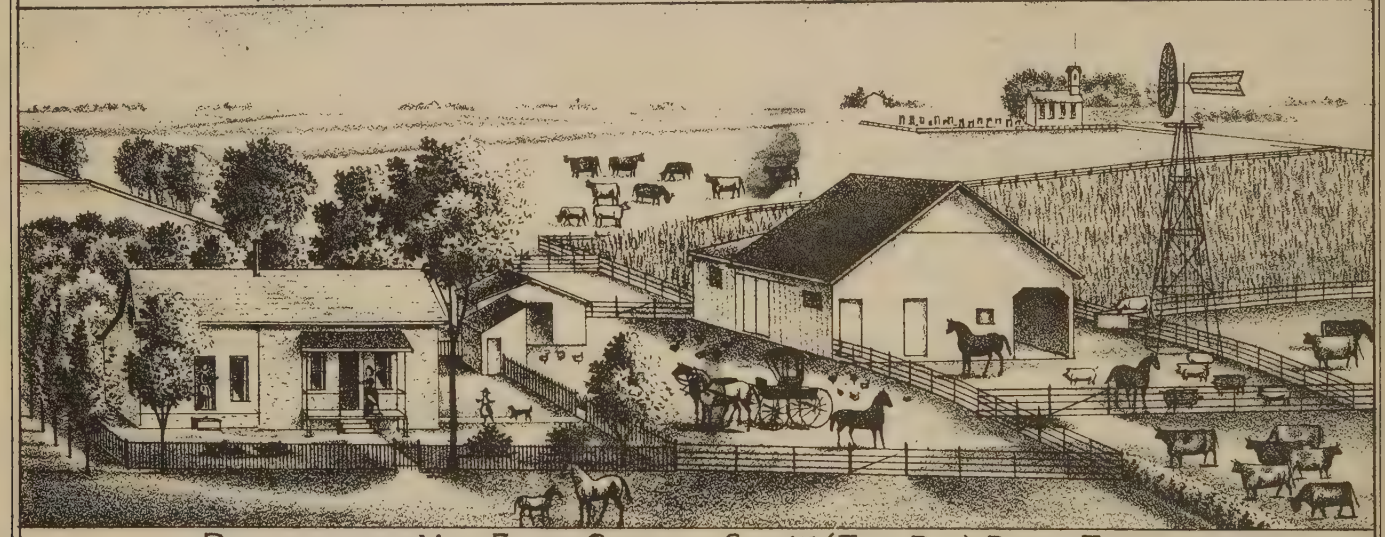
Our subject contracted a second matrimonial alliance in April, 1885, to Miss Elizabeth J. Timmons, formerly of Carroll County, Ind. Her father Elijah Timmons was a native of Ohio, her mother was Mary A. (Bennett) Timmons, of Pickaway Co., Ohio. This lady was one of a family of ten children, five boys and five girls, and was born May 15, 1838. Seven only are living. The Doctor became identified with the Masonic fraternity thirty-six years ago and has always taken a warm interest in its prosperity. He is Senior Vice Commander of George Morrison Post, No. 635 G. A. R., Department of Illinois, in which he has held the office of Surgeon. He was at one time a member of the Sons of Temperance, and religiously is connected with the Society of Friends. Mrs. Leeka finds her religious home in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Politically the Doctor is an ardent Republican, taking a lively interest in the success and principles of his party and laboring as he has opportunity, to advance the political doctrines which he believes are the surest means of prosperity to one of the best governments on the face of the earth.

ENOCH VANVICKLE. More than sixty years have gone by since the subject of this biographical review, then a stout, manly lad of fourteen years, first came to Vermilion County with his parents from his early home in the Buckeye State. Here he grew to a stalwart, capable manhood, and has since been identified with the development and prosperity of his adopted county, and has been a factor in promoting its agricultural interests, with which he is still connected, having a good farm on section 35, Blount Township, comprising 140 acres of as fine, tillable land as is to be found in the whole precinct. By downright, hard and persistent labor he has brought it to a high state of cultivation, it yielding him a good income, and he has erected suitable buildings. His parents were among the early settlers of the county, and it has been his pleasure to witness and assist in almost its entire development from a state of nature.

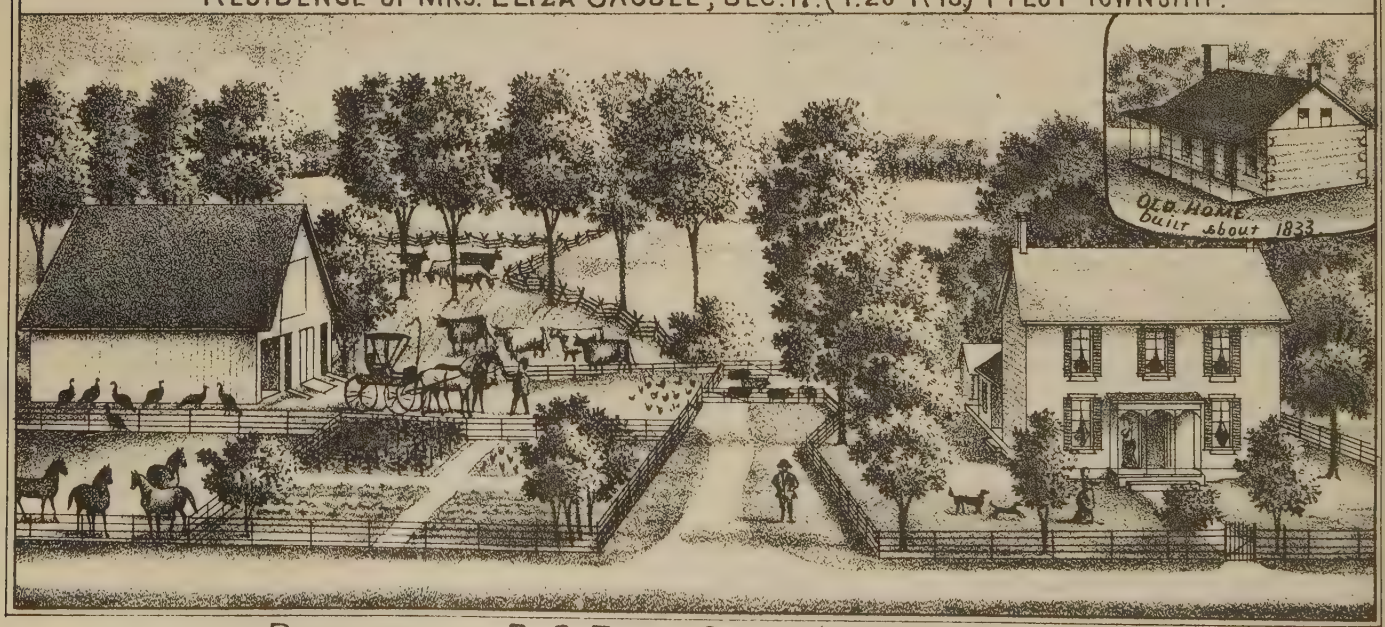
The father of our subject, Evert Vanvickle, was born either in Pennsylvania or Virginia. His mother, whose maiden name was Sarah White, was a native of Pennsylvania, and after marriage the parents settled in Butler County, Ohio, from there they removed to Jennings County, Ind., where



RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM KELLY, SEC. [illegible] DANVILLE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. ELIZA CASSEL, SEC. 17. (T. 20-R 13) PILOT TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF B. C. PATE, SEC. 21. (T. 19-R. 12) CATLIN TOWNSHIP.

they lived till 1828. In that year they made another move westward and penetrating to the wilds of Illinois, came to Vermilion County and settled in Blount Township. After a residence here of some twenty years they went to Holt County, Mo., where their remaining years were passed. To that worthy couple were born five sons, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second.

Our subject was born in the pioneer home of his parents in Butler County, Ohio, April 26, 1814. He accompanied his parents to this county in 1828 and has ever since been an honored citizen of this place. After attaining man's estate he adopted the calling of agriculture to which he had been reared and for which he had a natural taste, and as the years have rolled by he has acquired a comfortable competency, and with the aid of a good wife he has built up a cozy home, in which they are spending the declining years of a life of usefulness in quietness and peace, enjoying the full respect and affection of their neighbors and friends.

Mr. Vanvickle has been twice married. The first time in Vermilion County, in 1837, to Miss Nancy White. Nine children were the fruits of that union, of whom the following seven grew to maturity: Ruth; Andrew, who was a soldier in the army, enlisted from Indiana, and gave up his life for his country at Knoxville, Tenn.; Sarah, Evert, Harriet, John, and Enoch. Mrs. Vanvickle departed this life in her husband's home in Blount Township. She was a thoroughly good, upright woman, and an esteemed member of the Christian Church. Mr. Vanvickle was married a second time in Blount Township to Mrs. Cynthia (Souders) Cline. She is a native of Pike County, Ohio, born April 11, 1823. She has also been twice married. Her first husband was Nathaniel Cline. He was a native of Gallatin, Tenn., and took part in the Rebellion, enlisting from Danville, Ill., in Company A, 125th Illinois Infantry. He died at Gallatin, Tenn. By that marriage Mrs. Vanvickle became the mother of eight children—Amanda, Martha, Mary, Benjamin F., John B., Charles, Luketta, and Emma. Amanda and Martha are deceased.

Our subject is held in veneration by his fellowmen not only for his pioneer labors in Blount Township, in whose welfare he has always taken a genuine interest, but for those honest traits of mind and heart that mark him as a good man and a desirable citizen. He is one of the few survivors of the famous Black Hawk War, in which he served about thirty days, being then a youth of eighteen years. He, and his worthy wife are esteemed members of the Christian Church, with which he connected himself some twenty years ago, and she joined thirty years ago. Mr. Vanvickle is a true Republican, and in him the party finds a devoted follower.

JAMES DAVIS is one of the prosperous and influential farmers of Vermilion County, who takes great pride in doing all things well. His father was Henry Davis, who was born in Pennsylvania. He removed to Ohio in 1808, and lived there twenty-eight years, and in 1836 settled in Illinois, locating on the farm now owned and occupied by his son James. His mother, whose maiden name was Rachael Pollock, was also a native of Pennsylvania.

Henry Davis lived in Pennsylvania but a short time after his marriage, when he emigrated to Ohio, and there cleared a farm of 200 acres. After his removal to Illinois he became a very large landholder, owning at one time about 4,200 acres of uncultivated Illinois prairie. He was the father of ten children, five of whom are now living. The mother died in 1848, at the age of sixty-one, while the father passed away in November, 1855, aged seventy-four years. James was the youngest of this family of children, his birth occurring Jan. 21, 1828, in Guernsey, County, Ohio. He received a limited education in the old-fashioned log schoolhouse, and his boyhood was mostly employed at work upon the farm. In those days he spent a great deal of time hunting deer, wolves, and other wild game, and refers to these times as the happiest moments of his life. He remained at home helping his father on the farm until he was twenty-two years of age, when he married America J. Boggess, Oct. 18, 1849. She is the daughter of John Boggess, who was one of the earliest pioneers

of Vermilion County. He settled at Brooks' Point, and was a representative farmer of his time. Eleven children were born to him, nine of whom grew to maturity. He and his wife have been dead for many years. Mrs. Davis, wife of the subject of this sketch, was born at Brooks' Point, May 3, 1833. She grew to womanhood in this section, where she received a limited school education.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Davis located on his present farm, where his father gave him 397 acres of as good land as there is in the county. It will be seen that Mr. Davis had a competency with which to begin life. He possesses the common sense and business skill necessary to keep his inherited wealth and add to it. He is a first-class farmer, and raises cattle, horses, sheep and hogs. In 1865 Mr. Davis erected a fine residence at a cost of $5,000, and since that time has added to it, and made many improvements in its surroundings. He also owns a good house and lot in Danville. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have had two children: John T., the elder of the two, is married to Miss Katie Thomas, and they are living three miles southwest of Fairmount. He is the father of one son—James Roy—by a former marriage. Rachel A. married E. R. Danforth; they reside in Danville with their three children—Jennie, Annie and James.

Mr. Davis has held many of the local offices of his township, and has given the best of satisfaction in conducting them. For nine years he held the offices of Road Commissioner and School Director, and is now a Trustee of his school district. He is a member of Homer Lodge No. 199, A. F. & A. M., of which he has been Senior and Junior Warden, Junior Deacon and Treasurer. The offices of King and Scribe have been held by him in the lodge of Royal Arch Masons No. 94. He is also a member of the commandery at Danville. Mr. Davis has been a member of the Baptist Church for many years, and he takes some interest in politics. He was born and reared a Democrat, and continued with that party until the War of the Rebellion, when he changed his political belief, and since that time he has invariably voted the Republican ticket at National and State elections, but in local affairs he casts his vote for the best man. Mr. Davis has been somewhat of a traveler. His first trip was to Chicago, in 1842, with a load of wheat, and in 1848 he took a second trip to Chicago with a load of apples. In 1875 he visited California, and made an extended trip through that State. He attended the Centennial at Philadelphia in 1876, and on that journey visited many different States. Mr. Davis enlisted in Company C, 71st Illinois Infantry, and served with his regiment until late in the autumn of 1862, when he was discharged. There is no farmer in this section of the country whose judgment is better, and his record is one of the best.

VIRGIL C. T. KINGSLEY, M.D. is a native of New York State, having been born near Utica. His father, Jedediah S. Kingsley, was also a native of the same State and Utica was his home for a great many years. The grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Obediah Kingsley, was a native of New England and traced his ancestry to England. He settled in Herkimer County, N. Y. and pursued the calling of a farmer, living on his first homestead for nearly a half century and dying there. He was one of the earliest settlers of Herkimer County, and early in the century, purchased a tract of timber land from which he cleared a farm. He built two saw-mills, was an extensive dealer in lumber and furnished the lumber for the large asylum at Utica.

Jedediah S. Kingsley, the father of the subject of this sketch was reared to agricultural pursuits, and followed farming for some time after his marriage, when his health gave way and he turned his attention to the study of medicine, a profession to which he was eminently adapted, as time later on demonstrated. He graduated from the University of Vermont, at Burlington, when he immediately commenced the practice of his profession at Rome, N. Y., and has remained there since. The maiden name of his wife was Angeline Myers, a native of New York State and to whom was born five children.

Dr. Kingsley, of whom this biography is written, was educated in the common schools of Rome, and was graduated from the High School there. Early in

life he concluded that he was adapted to the profession of medicine and surgery, and following that idea, he commenced the study of medicine with his father, after which he attended three years at the medical department of Michigan University at Ann Arbor, and graduated in the class of '83. After his graduation he returned to Rome and commenced practice and pursued his profession there until the spring of 1884, when he removed to Danville, where he has built up an extensive and lucrative practice. The doctor makes a specialty of cancer, tumors and chronic diseases, and has been eminently successful in pursuing these specialties. Patients visit him from many different states. His office is well filled, a greater portion of the time, and all curable diseases are treated with success. The Doctor's pleasant ways and professional ability are drawing cards.

Dr. Kingsley was married in 1884, to Miss Ella Brown, a native of Oneida County, New York State and daughter of Mary Brown.

TIMOTHY PARK, who lives on section 24, in Grant Township, Vermilion County, near the Indiana State line, was born in Franklin County, Ohio, in 1844. His parents were Silas and Mary (Good) Park, both of Virginia. They removed to Franklin County, Ohio, at an early day, but later went to Delaware County in the same State, where both died, the father in 1877, the mother about twenty years ago. Silas Park was a farmer by occupation, and a plain, hardworking man who never took any part in public affairs, but attended closely to the business of making a home for his family, and he succeeded. They had nine children, of whom five are living, namely: Ezekiel, William and Branson, farmers in Delaware County, Ohio; Rose, who is the wife of William Hazlett, also living in Ohio. Those deceased were named respectively: Susanna, Samantha, Hardy and Ashforth.

Timothy Park, of whom we write, was brought up to farming, which has been his lifelong occupation. He remained in Ohio until 1869, when he came to this county, buying a farm on section 25 in Grant Township, one-half mile south of his present home. He lived there but a year, however, when he returned to his native State. A few months later he came back to this county, was married and rented a farm on section 19, township 23, range 10 and 11, and there he and his wife lived for four years, when he bought the farm which he now owns and occupies. It was then but a tract of uncultivated prairie, without a building, fence or tree, in fact, being wholly destitute of the work of man. Now he has all the improvements necessary for a well regulated farm, his house being neat and comfortable, his buildings ample for all his needs, and his land more than ordinarily well cultivated, the transformation being due to his untiring energy and knowledge, and the picture of his broad acres with their fine surroundings is one on which he can look with just pride. Eighty acres of his land are on the section on which his house stands, while another eighty is located on section 13, adjoining it on the north. Mr. Park has always been an ardent advocate of thorough drainage, and was one of the first to build tile drains in this part of the county, and he now has his entire farm tiled in the most thorough manner. On the northern half of his farm he has the biggest and deepest ditch in the northeast corner of the county, and the results of this careful attention to proper drainage and tillage of the soil are apparent in the splendid condition of his land and his usual good crops.

Although not one of the original settlers of the county, Mr. Park located here when the land was new and sparsely settled. The presence of large sloughs and much low land in the neighborhood had retarded the progress of this section of the county, and he has witnessed its development from its wild state to its present prosperous condition, and has been no small factor in assisting its growth, to which he has contributed his full share. The first work that he did here was for his wife's father, James Budd, who was largely interested in the cultivation of broom corn, having as much as 300 acres planted at one time. The nearest market for the product was at Lafayette, Ind., and no regular and direct roads having been laid out, the wagons

had to go the best way they could around the numerous sloughs and across the prairies, making the distance between here and there from forty-five to fifty miles. Often Mr. Park has started long before daylight, sometimes as early as two o'clock in the morning, in order to get to Lafayette by sundown, which could only be accomplished by hard driving. The next day was occupied by the return trip. Farmers of the present day would think this an overpowering hardship, but such trials as this the pioneers had to endure in their efforts to build up homes on the prairies, and their labors and sacrifices have made this country what it is. Without them railroads would not so soon have been built to carry the farmer's produce so far and near, and bring the articles he needs almost to his very door. All honor, then, to those brave and sturdy men who from the wild and bleak prairies have made this country one of prosperous farms, dotted with groves, among which nestle thousands of comfortable homes. Theirs were the toils and sacrifices, while we in comfort and ease enjoy the fruits of their labors. Among these true men, Mr. Park is justly entitled to a place. When he settled here, Hoopeston was not thought of, and he mentions as an interesting fact that he sold the first dozen brooms ever disposed of in that now thriving town. Although yet a young man, he is to-day one of the oldest settlers living in the northeast corner of the county.

On April 16, 1876, Mr. Park was united in marriage with Miss Nancy S. Budd, daughter of James and Susanna Budd, then and now residents of Iroquois County, Ill., who emigrated from Ohio, where Mr. Budd was largely engaged in the occupation of sheep-raising. He has now a general farm, but is virtually retired from active life, being seventy-six years of age. Mrs. Park was born in Ohio, 1841, and is the mother of one child—Elnora Jeanette, a bright young miss, now attending school. Mr. Park is one of the younger farmers of Grant Township, who is becoming known as one of its most enterprising and go-ahead citizens. He has never been an applicant for public office, but has held some of the minor township positions. He is an honest, trustworthy man, whose neighbors give him an excellent character as a citizen, and one of the substantial sort who contribute much to the prosperity of the county. Politically he is a supporter of the Democratic party in State and national affairs, but in local matters party ties rest lightly on him, for he believes in voting for the man best qualified for the position, the proper way for those who have the best interests of the community at heart.

THOMAS KEPLINGER. The snug and well-regulated farm occupied by the subject of this sketch comprises 120 acres of choice land, located on section 29, Grant Township. This, when he took possession of it in 1870 was but slightly improved, only a little breaking having been done and not a shrub, post or tree upon it, being all open prairie. During the nineteen years of his proprietorship Mr. Keplinger has effected a great transformation, there being now a fine residence with a good orchard and numerous shade trees, together with a barn and the other outbuildings required for the successful prosecution of farm pursuits. The fields are enclosed to a good extent with hedge fencing, and by a process of underdraining the land has become remarkably fertile and the source of a handsome income.

At the time of his coming to Illinois, Mr. Keplinger found deer, wolves and all kinds of wild animals in abundance. For the first few years his farm was mostly devoted to the raising of grain to which it seemed best adapted, but now he raises all the cereals, besides the produce required for family use and considerable to sell. He is at this writing (April 1889) completing a handsome new residence, the main part occupying an area of 16x24 feet with an "L" 15x26 feet and which when finished, set in the midst of shrubbery as it is, will form one of the most attractive homes in this region. Everything about the place is indicative of thrift and prosperity, cultivated tastes and the refinements of modern life.

Mr. Keplinger was born in Fountain County, Ind., six miles east of Covington, April 7, 1829, and lived there until a man of thirty-two years. He

remained a member of the parental household until the death of his father, which occurred in 1859, at the age of fifty-three years. The mother had died when he was a lad of twelve. On the 10th of May, 1860, he was married to Miss Eliza Shaffer and the year following removed to the vicinity of Sugar Grove, Champaign County, upon which he operated ten or eleven years. In 1870 he came to this county and secured the land which he now owns. Since becoming a voting citizen he has given his influence and support to the Democratic party, but has carefully avoided the responsibilities of office.

Mr. and Mrs. Keplinger have had six children, five of whom are living, as follows: Nancy, born Feb. 5, 1860, and died Aug. 2, 1862; James married Miss Ella Gunn, is a resident of Hoopeston and is the father of one child; George, Annie and Andrew are at home with their parents; Allie, the third child, is the wife of Elmer Crane and lives in Nebraska; they have two children. Mrs. Keplinger was born in Fountain County, Ind., Jan. 24, 1835, and is the daughter of Daniel Shaffer, a farmer of that county. She received her education in the common school and remained with her parents until her marriage.

Jacob Keplinger, the father of our subject, was born in Virginia and lived there until a man of twenty-seven years. He then emigrated to Indiana and was married to Miss Nancy Dedimore. To them there were born three sons and two daughters of whom only three are living—Thomas, our subject, and his brother, John, a resident of Indiana and a sister Martha, who resides in Iowa.

ALFRED M. DIXON. This well-known gentleman, who owns a farm on section 16, in Grant Township, was born in Fayette County, Pa., May 25, 1834, his parents being William and Jane (Montgomery) Dixon, both natives of the Keystone State. The father was a farmer in the county where his son was born, and there he died when the latter was about ten years of age. Alfred was brought up to farm work from an early age, also drove cattle to market, and worked at all such like occupations until 1861, in which year he removed to near Attica, in Fountain County, Ind., making that his home for two or three years, but spending a summer during that time in Vermilion County, in which he settled permanently in April, 1868, at a place known as Burr Oak Grove, in Grant Township. There he worked for four years, when he removed to the farm on which he now lives. This land was given to himself and wife by the latter's father and was then nothing but a tract of raw prairie land, with neighbors few and far between, and to one accustomed to the more densely populated communities of the Eastern States it did not present a very inviting appearance. With stout hearts and willing hands, assisted by the labors of a faithful wife, our subject set to work improving his land, and at length brought it to its present state of thorough cultivation. Wild game was in that day plentiful in this region, and Mr. Dixon mentions that he counted at one time seven deer at a small creek near his house. Wild fowl were also plenty; ducks, geese and prairie chickens being constant and not always welcome visitors to the farmers' grain fields. Prairie wolves were unpleasantly numerous, the farmers' pig pens often suffering by their depradations.

In the seventeen years that have elapsed since Mr. Dixon settled at his present home, great changes have been wrought, and the country about has been thickly settled. His own place shows the work of an industrious and thrifty hand. About nine years ago he put up a new frame house and his outbuildings are all that the necessities of his farm require. These have all been the results of his own labor, and the comforts he is now enjoying are deserved.

In October, 1864, Mr. Dixon was married in Fountain County, Ind., to Miss Serena Dunkelbarger, born in that place in 1845 and a daughter of John and Fanny Dunkelbarger, whose home was in the county named, but who were the owners of large tracts of land in Vermilion County, comprising 900 acres in all. Both of Mrs. Dixon's parents were natives of Perry County, Pa., and they removed to Indiana at an early day.

The mother died a few years afterward and Mr. Dunkelbarger has since been twice married, both of his later wives being from Indiana, where he still resides.

Mr. and Mrs. Dixon became the parents of ten children, six of whom are yet living, four dying young. The survivors are: Fannie, wife of Burn Deeten, a farmer of Grant Township; John, who is a machinist by trade, lives in Milwaukee, Wis.; Jennie, Emma, Ella and Dale Wallace are yet under the parental roof.

Mr. Dixon takes an active interest in township affairs and has held several offices. He is now Highway Commissioner. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, affiliated with Star Lodge, No. 709, A. F. & A. M.; and with the Hoopeston Chapter, No. 181, R. A. M. In every position Mr. Dixon has filled he has discharged the duties imposed upon him with such fidelity and judgment as to win the good opinion of all, and to-day no man stands higher in the respect and esteem of all who know him than does he.

JOHN H. VAN ALLEN. In noting the men of prominence who are residents of Oakwood Township and have been instrumental in bringing it to its present position, the subject of this notice could by no means properly be omitted, and those who in the future may peruse the records of this county will recognize in him one of its representative men, who, in assisting to develop a portion of its soil and each year turning in a handsome sum to the county treasury from the proceeds of his taxable property, has borne no unimportant part in establishing its reputation and importance. The value of history and biography are becoming more thoroughly recognized each year among the intelligent people of the great West, who realize the fact that their children and their children's children in future years will reap great satisfaction in noting the names of their progenitors among those who contributed to the development of Central Illinois.

In noting the events of the life of a prosperous and respected citizen, the mind naturally reverts to those from whom he drew his origin. The father of our subject was Stats B. Van Allen, a native of New York City, who learned carpentering when a young man and in later years operated quite extensively as a contractor. The family is of Scottish descent, and was represented in this country probably during the colonial days. Mrs. Margaret (Hill) Van Allen, the mother of our subject, was a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, and the daughter of William Hill, who was born in Virginia, and for a time was connected with the iron works in Gilim's Falls as foreman of a forge. He also carried on farming. He spent his last years in Henry County, Ohio, dying at the age of seventy-six.

Stats B. Van Allen, the father of our subject, spent his last years in the Buckeye State, dying in February, 1888, at the age of seventy. The mother is still living there, and is now in the sixty-eighth year of her age. They were the parents of twelve children, all of whom lived to mature years. John H., our subject, was the third in order of birth, and first opened his eyes to the light Jan. 22, 1843, in Licking County, Ohio. His boyhood was spent in his native State, and he received a limited education in the common schools. He remained at home with his parents, turning over his earnings into the family treasury, until entering the army to fight the battles of the Union.

Our subject, on the 14th of August, 1862, enlisted in Company G, 97th Ohio Infantry, and served one year. The regiment was first ordered to Cincinnati and then to Louisville to follow up Gen. Bragg's army. At Wild Cat Mountain he received a very severe fall and was sent to the hospital at Nashville, where he was confined in the Zollicoffer House. Being very discontented here he left and returned to his regiment, with which he remained until the battle of Murfreesboro. Thence he went to Nashville, and finally was sent to Camp Denison, Ohio, where he was obliged to accept his honorable discharge on account of disability.

Mr. Van Allen now returned to his father's farm and remained there about one year. On the 24th of November, 1864, he was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca, daughter of John Morrison, a prom-

inent farmer of his locality and one of the representative men of Licking County. Mr. Morrison died in March, 1889, at the age of seventy-two years. He had been twice married, and by his first wife, the mother of Mrs. Van Allen, was the father of seven children. After her death, which occurred about twenty-four years ago, he was married the second time and there were born to him two more children.

Mrs. Van Allen was the second child of her parents and was born in Licking County, Ohio, Feb. 1, 1842. She received a very good education in the common schools, and remained a member of the parental household until her marriage. The newly wedded pair commenced the journey of life together in Mt. Sterling, Ohio, and Mr. Van Allen employed himself as a carpenter for two years thereafter. Next he engaged in teaming three years, hauling principally stoneware and crockery. Finally, in 1869, he determined to seek the farther West, and coming to Illinois with his family located near Glenburn, where he established a pottery which he conducted about eighteen months. Then abandoning this he turned his attention to farming, with which he has since been occupied and has met with flattering success.

The property of Mr. Van Allen embraces 205 acres of choice land, mostly in one body and nearly the whole under a thorough state of cultivation. It is pleasantly located on section 26. The residence was put up in 1884, and comprises a neat and substantial dwelling, which, with its surroundings is indicative of the enterprising and progressive spirit of the proprietor. Of the nine children born to our subject and his estimable wife, seven are living and all at home with their parents. They were named respectively: Effie, Charles H., William E., James M., Jessie F., Gracie M. and Robert S.

In politics Mr. Van Allen is a Republican both by inheritance and a most decided preference for the principles of this party. At the time of Gen. Garfield's election as President of the United States the father of our subject had the honor of casting eleven votes for the Republican ticket, nine of these being for his own sons and one for a grandson. Our subject has served as School Director for the last twelve years, and still occupies the office. In religious matters his views coincide with those of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Van Allen is a member in good standing of the Christian Church. Socially, Mr. Van Allen belongs to Newtown Lodge, No. 714, A. F. & A. M., and also to George Morrison Post, No. 635, G. A. R., of Glenburn.

ALEX L. WHITE, a highly esteemed old resident of Vance Township, is without question one of the most popular men of Fairmount, where he has spent many years and with whose people he has been closely identified both in friendly and business relations. His wide knowledge of human nature and his uniformly good judgment make him the recipient of many confidences, especially among the old people of the place, who often solicit him for advice in business matters, and he seldom fails to give them wise and judicious counsel.

The native place of Mr. White was in the vicinity of Logan, Ohio, and the date of his birth Nov. 2, 1849. His early education was conducted in the schools of his native town, and he made such good use of his time that at the age of sixteen years he began teaching, and followed this profession at intervals for a period of fourteen years. He taught first in the schools of his native town, when there were but two male teachers out of a corps of nine. At one time he was Superintendent of the Gore Coal Mines. Upon coming to Fairmount he officiated as Principal of the schools, and in 1880 took the census in Sidell Township, this county. The year following he journeyed to the Indian Territory and became superintendent of the lumber business conducted by Osgood & Haywood, of Indianapolis, being stationed in the Creek Nation.

In the spring of 1882 Mr. White was elected Assessor and Collector of Vance Township, and held the position two years. In 1884 he was elected Township Supervisor, which office he has since held by re-election each year. He was appointed Post-

master of Fairmount in 1885, retaining the position until 1889, when he resigned on account of ill health.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Angeline E. Noble took place at the bride's home in Fairmount July 20, 1876. Rev. J. H. Noble, the father of Mrs. White, was a leading member of the Illinois Conference and Presiding Elder of the Danville district. Later he was stationed at Springfield, and now, after an active service in the Master's vineyard of over forty years, contemplates retiring from his arduous duties. He is a strong and eloquent expounder of the Word, and thousands have listened to the admonitions which have fallen from his lips and borne good fruit. In the discharge of his pious duties he has been stationed at Lincoln, Mattoon, Shelbyville and Paxton in Illinois; and in Indiana was in Greencastle, New Albany and Indianapolis.

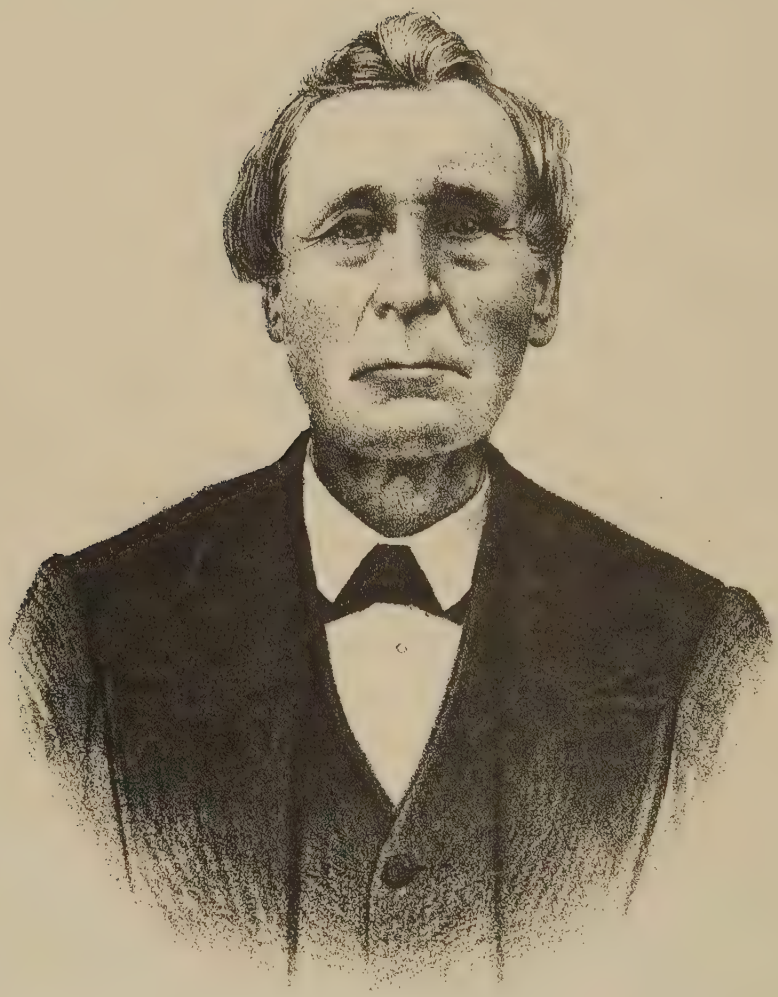
Mr. Noble was born in Ohio in the fall of 1821, and was twice married. He became the father of thirteen children, ten of whom are living. His first wife was Miss Angeline Simmons, and his second her sister Caroline.

Mrs. White was born Aug. 3, 1857, in Indiana, and received an excellent education. She was married to our subject when a maiden of nineteen years, and is now the mother of three children, the eldest of whom, Anna Lee, was born July 30, 1877. The latter is a bright young girl, and takes a remarkable interest in her studies, priding herself upon her progress therein. The second daughter, Edna Noble, was born June 20, 1879, and the only son, Edgar Paul, April 14, 1885. Mr. White politically is a strong Democrat, and has been quite prominent in politics. Several of his male relatives in Ohio occupied prominent positions, one uncle being Clerk of the County Court, another County Commissioner, and two others Auditor and Recorder respectively, all holding office at the same time. Leaving Ohio in 1873, he came to this county, locating in Fairmount, with which his interests have since been closely identified. For the last six years he has been manager for the firm of Davis & Stearns, dealers in lumber, hardware and agricultural implements. He only officiated as Postmaster six months, and when sending in his resignation Mrs. White received the appointment and held the office until the early part of June, 1889. Mrs. White is a very estimable lady and a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject socially has been Master of Fairmount Lodge, No. 590, for the last three years, and still holds the position.

Mr. White was the third child of his parents, Darius and Esther (McBroom) White, who were also natives of the Buckeye State, and the father is now principal owner of the Logan Manufacturing Plant. The paternal grandparents were likewise natives of the Buckeye State. Grandfather McBroom, also a native of Ohio, served in the War of 1812 and died in 1883, when over ninety years of age. His wife was a native of Maryland, and died in 1882. They had lived together for the long period of sixty-four years. To Darius White and his estimable wife there were born nine children, all of whom are living, together with the parents—a circumstance seldom equalled the world over, death having not yet entered this interesting household circle.

ALBERT GIDDINGS. One of the largest and best-appointed conservatories in Eastern Illinois, embracing 8,000 square feet of glass, is owned and conducted by the subject of this notice, who commands a wholesale and retail trade extending into most of the States from the Atlantic to the Pacific. As a florist he cannot be excelled, and he is of that enterprising and go-ahead disposition which is the surest guarantee of success. His life-long interests have centered in Vermilion County, for it is the county of his birth, which took place in Danville, Dec. 3, 1850.

Our subject is the son of William and Caroline (Kitchener) Giddings, prominent residents of this county, and a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work in connection with that of John W. Giddings, their son. Albert was reared and educated in his native city, although spending much of his time at the farm of his father, where he con-



Wm Connelley

tinued until the death of the latter. He then engaged in the grocery trade in partnership with W. H. Johns, and the firm of Johns & Giddings existed until May, 1882. Our subject then disposed of his interests in the business to his partner, and the year following established himself in that in which he is now engaged.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Mary J. Cromer took place at the home of the bride, Oct. 4, 1877. Mrs. Giddings was born near Perryville, Ind., in February, 1859, and was the daughter of Francis and Isabelle Cromer. Mrs. Giddings died June 5, 1883, and our subject, on the 23d of March, 1887, contracted a second marriage with Miss Ella Dill, of Danville, Ind. This lady was born Jan. 4, 1863, in Clearmont, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Giddings are members in good standing of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Giddings, politically, is a Republican. Socially, he belongs to Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, A. F. & A. M.; Vermilion Chapter No. 82, R. A. M.; Athelstane Commandery No. 45, Knight Templar, and Oriental Consistory of Chicago. He is a man intelligent and well informed, and a favorite both in social and business circles among the people with whom he has grown up from boyhood.

WILLIAM CANADAY, SR. In giving their just due to the pioneers of Central Illinois, there is required the pen of the historian, who will perpetuate their names and deeds to future generations, who as time passes on will learn to appreciate them at their full value. It is doubtful if those sturdy characters themselves realized the magnitude of the work which they had begun, and the results which were to follow. Not only did their labors affect themselves personally, but the works of each man contributed to make a grand whole in the development of a rich section of the country which is looked upon with pride by the people to-day. The fact that Mr. Canaday came to Elwood Township when there was but one cabin within its limits is sufficient to establish him as one of the most prominent men of this region, and the further fact that he has labored industriously and lived worthily, forms for him one of the most enduring monuments which can be erected to man.

There are four men in Elwood Township bearing the name of William Canaday, and of these the subject of this sketch is the most prominent and the oldest. Of Southern birth and parentage, he was born in Jefferson County, East Tenn., Dec. 22, 1809, and is the son of Henry Canaday, a native of North Carolina, who removed with his family to Wayne County, Ind., in the fall of 1820 and there spent the following winter. In the meantime two of the sons came to this county and put up in Elwood Township a round log cabin near the present residence of our subject and on the same section. Early in the spring of 1821 the family took possession of the cabin, the only house in this region. Indians were numerous and often visited the family to beg, trade or steal. They camped on the banks of the Little Vermilion in the spring of the year to hunt and fish, but never seriously troubled the settlers.

The Canadays made sugar that first spring and prepared to carry on farming, but finally one of the sons, Benjamin, returned to Tennessee, where he bought a farm and soon afterwards was joined by the balance of the family. The whole family returned to this county the following fall, having sold their Tennessee property. They were visited considerably with sickness and the nearest doctor was at Clinton. They had to go to the mill to Racoon Creek, in Park County, Ind., and Terre Haute was the nearest trading point. They had no horses and broke the new ground with oxen. Wild game was plentiful—deer, turkey and a few buffalo. In the fall they filled the smoke-house with deer hams and also had plenty of pork.

When returning to Tennessee the Canaday family left thirty hogs which they had brought from Indiana and which they could not well take with them upon going back South. So the animals ran wild, and for years thereafter their progeny roamed through the woods and became so ferocious that a boar would sometimes kill a cow. The Canaday family occupied the small log cabin, containing one room, for some time, and the mother did the cooking by the fire-place. The floor was of puncheon,

the roof of clapboards held down with weight poles and the stick and clay chimney was built on the outside.

About the second year of their residence in Vermilion County, Henry Canaday, the father of our subject, together with John Haworth, set up a "meeting," as it was called by the Society of Friends, (or in common parlance organized a church). These two men and others who afterwards came to the neighborhood built a log cabin and worshiped therein, and afterwards built a church of hewed logs. Sometimes the attendance was so small that Henry Canaday and his son Benjamin would go to "meeting" and sit through the hour for worship, in order to keep up the church organization as per the discipline of that church.

Mrs. Matilda (Barnard) Canaday was a native of Nantuckett's Island, Mass., whence she went to North Carolina with her parents when a little girl. Her father, Capt. Benjamin Barnard, followed the sea for many years. The parental family consisted of five children, of whom Mrs. Canaday is the only one living. Her brother Benjamin, died at the age of seventy-eight years; John died when about fifty years old; Frederick and Mary were each about eighty-two years of age at the time of their decease.

The subject of this sketch was reared at the old homestead and grew up with a limited education, there being no schools during his boyhood in this region. His father established a tanyard in which young Canaday worked, he also learned saddlery and harness-making. Besides his tanyard and the farm the father also conducted a tin shop. William in later years turned his attention exclusively to farming and stock-raising and operated largely as a stock-dealer. He grew wealthy and is now the owner of 430 acres of land, besides having given 540 acres to his children.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Mary Haworth took place in 1831. This lady was born in East Tennessee and is the daughter of William Haworth, a well-known resident of this county. This union resulted in the birth of ten children—seven of whom are living, viz: Julia A., Mrs. Harold; G. Franklin; Richard H.; James A.; Matilda J., Mrs. Brown; Benjamin F. and Alice, Mrs. Morris. Julia married Wilton Harold, of Ridge Farm, but has no children; Franklin married Miss Mary Jackson, who lived near Homer, and they have two children—Gertude and Edwin; Richard married Miss Catherine Harold and occupies part of the homestead, he has one child, William; James married Miss Drusilla Diven, and lives at Burr Oak Grove, in Champaign County; they have four children—Mary E., Dora, Earl and Ora; Matilda married Rev. Thomas C. Brown, of Elwood Township, and has two children—M. Alice and Oliver W.; Benjamin took to wife Miss Cornelia Green, and lives in Elwood Township, and has seven children—Howard W., Richard A., Anna A., Jesse, Mary, Martha and an infant boy unnamed. The last three are triplets; Alice married Dr. Charles C. Morris, of Rockville, Ind., and they have three children—Jesse C., Estella E. and Mary H.

Mrs. Mary (Haworth) Canaday departed this life in the fall of 1855. Our subject was married the second time, Oct. 30, 1873, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Nathaniel Diament, deceased. She was was born in New Jersey, Oct. 26, 1826, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Canaday was reared in the faith of the Quakers, to which he still loyally adheres. In politics he is a sound Republican but has held aloof from the responsibilities of office. A fine lithographic portrait of Mr. Canaday is shown elsewhere in this volume.

AMOS JACKSON was born in Clinton County, Ind., on Sept. 15, 1837. He is one of the largest land-owners in the township of Sidell. His father and mother were born in Washington County, Pa., and Ohio, respectively. By his first marriage his father had eleven children, of which Amos was the tenth child and youngest son. The first wife died at Jefferson, Ind., in 1840, when Amos was a little over two years of age. His father remarried but died soon after at the age of forty-eight years.

Thus it will be seen that Amos was left motherless at the age of two and a half years, and when

he was ten years old he was left without a father, and at this time he began to fight the battle of life alone. His father left a farm of 200 acres, but the administration of the estate left but little for the heirs. As before related, Amos began at the age of ten years, to work for his board and clothes, and under these circumstances his educational advantages were necessarily extremely limited. He attended school about eight months in all in a little log school-house, walking two miles. He continued to live in Indiana until he was eighteen years of age, when, in 1855, in company with his uncle, Johnson Ross, he came to Edgar County, Ill., and assisted his uncle in clearing up a farm. At the age of twenty he returned to Indiana but remained only a year when he returned to Illinois and engaged at brick-making at Indianola. It was at this place he first met his wife, Miss Sarah Hesler, who at that time was living with her grandfather, John Gilgis, one of the earliest pioneers of Indianola. Her father and mother were born in Ohio and Kentucky respectively. Mr. Gilgis was a merchant at Indianola and a man of considerable wealth. Francis Hesler, father of Mrs. Jackson, was a farmer in Douglas County and the father of eleven children, of whom six were girls. He was married three times and had two children by his first, two by his second and seven by his third wife. Mrs. Jackson's mother was his first wife, who died when Mrs. Jackson was but three or four years old, and since that time and till her marriage she resided with her grandfather. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson became attached to each other while very young, and at the age of seventeen years, and recognizing the fact that "love laughs at locksmiths," quietly crossed over into the State of Michigan, where they were married. Returning to Indianola, they were of course forgiven and at once launched out on life's highway with the resolution of contradicting the theory that marriage is a failure. And in this they have succeeded. In the spring of 1860 Mr. Jackson rented a farm north of Indianola and commenced work in earnest to earn a home. Mrs. Gilgis died about two years subsequent to their marriage and they were called back to the home of Mrs. Jackson's grandfather, and when he died he left the young couple eighty acres of land. Afterward Mr. Jackson purchased a section of land, 640 acres, in Sidell Township, for which he agreed to pay $20,000. He sold his original eighty acres for $4,000, this leaving him in debt $16,000, drawing ten per cent. interest. Through prudent management Mr. Jackson has not only paid for that land but has added thereto 492 acres. Beside all that he had made many valuable improvements, among which may be mentioned 5,400 rods of drain tile, and there is not five acres of waste land on this immense tract. He has also erected a splendid barn for general purposes, a cattle barn 66x100, a granary and feed-mill 30x30, and the other necessary buildings for a large, well regulated farm. He has 150 head of cattle and is feeding a large number of hogs. Of late years Mr. Jackson has begun breeding running horses and has abandoned the raising of Clydesdales. He is a great lover of the Morgan horse, of which he has some splendid specimens. He owns the celebrated running horse "King Nero," who took the four first prizes on a Chicago track in the fall of 1887, amounting to $1,000. He is said to be the best bred horse in Illinois, being sired by "Harry Bassett," the celebrated Kentucky horse. As a stock-raiser there is none who stands higher in Vermilion County than Amos Jackson.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are the parents of seven children: John L.; Bertie, who died at the age of four months; Jennie, Laura, Frank, Ada and Lula B. Politically Mr. Jackson acts with the Democratic party and is a member of the Masonic Lodge. Mr. Jackson is exceedingly popular with his neighbors, and is fully entitled to enjoy the large fortune which he has accumulated by his energy and good management.

JOHN S. CRANE, a resident of Vermilion County for more than twenty years, has lived in Grant Township since the spring of 1867, and on his present place for sixteen years. He is a native of Yoxford, Suffolk County, England, and was born Aug. 22, 1828. He was brought up in his native county, learning the trade

of a shoemaker, in which he was engaged until his removal to Illinois. After his marriage in the fall of 1852, he emigrated to Canada accompanied by his parents. They started from London for New York, and on arrival there at once left for Gault, in the Province of Ontario, Canada. There the family settled and John S. carried on business in his trade as a manufacturer and dealer, until he removed to the United States. His parents made their permanent home in Gault where they were afterwards joined by others of the family who emigrated from time to time.

When he was eighty-four years of age, Grandfather Crane made a trip to America alone to see his descendants. Here he stayed two years and returned to his home in England where he lived to be ninety-six years of age. The parents of John S. Crane were named John and Mary (Girling) Crane. The father was also a shoemaker and likewise carried on business on his own account until he was quite old. He also lived to be an old man and at the age of eighty-four made a visit to his son in this country. He died four years afterward in his eighty-ninth year. His wife died several years prior to the decease of her husband, aged about seventy-six. Of their nine children six are now living, a record of whom follows: Harry, who is a carpenter and builder in Gault; George was a lumber and painter by trade in London, England and is now a farmer in Kanosh, Utah; William, also a carpenter and builder in Gault; Caroline is the wife of John Milligan, a graindealer in Rossville, this county; Charles is also a resident of Kanosh, Utah, and is largely interested in sheep raising and is President of the Wool Growers Association of Utah. He is also interested in the Salt Lake *Tribune*, the leading paper in that territory. He was learning the trade of a carpenter at Lafayette, Ind., when the war broke out and at the age of seventeen enlisted in the 10th Indiana Infantry for three months, during which time he was in the battle of Rich Mountain. He afterward joined the 63d Indiana Infantry, serving until the close of the war and for some time after that was Government messenger on the supply trains to the South. The other survivor is John S.

The three who are deceased are Clara, who was the wife of James McKendrick, of Gault, and died in that place leaving a family of four children. James was a resident of New Orleans at the outbreak of the Rebellion, and being a Union man made his escape from that city intending to go to Canada, but contracted a fever and died on reaching Lafayette, Ind., where his brother Charles was then living. Adaline, the youngest sister, died on her way to America and was buried at sea.

John, of whom this sketch was written, stayed in Gault until 1867, when he decided to give up his business and move to the United States. He had always desired to become a farmer, and the year prior to his removal came to Illinois to visit an uncle whom he had not seen for many years, and being much pleased with the appearance of the country he decided to make this State his home. Returning to Canada he sold out his property and in the spring of 1867 located east of where the thriving city of Hoopeston now stands. No railroad was then in existence here and the site of Hoopeston was an open prairie. On the place where he first settled he stayed but a year, when he removed to a farm of the uncle named, situated on what is known as the Chicago road. Having bought 125 acres, a part of his present property, he rented a farm east of it while he was putting up a house and other buildings. The farm was then all wild prairie and the improvements upon it have been made by Mr. Crane—all the buildings, fences, trees, etc., being the result of his labors. To-day it is as fine a property of its size as there is in this part of the county, and comprises in all 247 acres.

Mr. Crane was united in marriage in England in 1852 with Miss Eliza Garwood, who was born in Stratford, St. Mary, that county, March 21, 1830. She was the only one of the family to come to America. Mr. and Mrs. Crane are the parents of four children, one of whom Adeline, died in Gault at the age of three years. The survivors are Oscar G., who is now a resident of Rossville, this county; Edith is the wife of H. A. Hoover, living near Oskaloosa, Iowa; Charles G. is at home with his parents. Mr. Crane is a gentleman who has, by his quiet, unassuming manners, and upright living, won the respect of the people with whom he has lived for now more than a score of years, and be

is justly counted as one of the most valued citizens of the northeastern part of Vermilion County. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Star Lodge No. 709, of Hoopeston. He is a gentleman of domestic habits and tastes and has never aspired to office, preferring the quiet of his own home to the worry attending public position. In his comfortable home he and his estimable wife dispense hospitality to all who visit them, and they are justly entitled to the high measure of esteem in which they are held.

ASA PARTLOW is a native of Danville, where he was born on the 6th day of January, 1833. His father, Rueben Partlow, was born in Virginia and his grandfather, Samuel Partlow, was a native of the same State. The latter removed from Virginia to Kentucky in an early day and located in Nelson County, where he purchased a tract of land and cleared a farm. In 1835, accompanied by his wife, he came to Vermilion County to spend the winter with his children, who were then living here. The journey was made on horseback, and in the fall of the year. They stopped with their son Samuel, in Middle Fork Township, where the old gentleman was taken sick and died during the winter. In these times lumber was very scarce, there being no sawmills in this section of the country and it was with difficulty that boards could be purchased at any price. At any rate, it is stated that not enough lumber could be had to construct a coffin in which to bury Mr. Partlow. His sons went to the timber and cut down trees and split enough off them to build a coffin, and in this manner Mr. Partlow was interred. Soon after, and during the same winter, his wife was seized with illness and followed her husband to the grave. In this family there were nine children, seven of whom came to this county and are entitled to the appellation of pioneers. There were four sons—John, James, Reuben, and Samuel, and three daughters.

Reuben Partlow, the father of Asa, was very young when his parents removed to Kentucky, where he was reared and resided until 1831. He married, and then accompanied by his wife, came to Vermilion County, making the journey on horseback, carrying a few household goods with them. He located at Danville, and being a wheelwright and cooper, he worked at his trade until 1834, when he made a claim in Newell Township, upon which he built a log house. At this time stoves were possessed only by the rich, but fuel was plenty, and their old fashioned fire-place was a typical one. They made all their clothes of homespun cloth, and were happier than many who wear their fine clothes in these later days. Mr. Partlow lived there about a year, when he disposed of his claim and returned to Danville, where he followed his trade for a while, afterward taking another claim in Middle Fork Township. When this came into market, he purchased it from the Government, and this tract of land has since been the old homestead. Of course, in those days there were no railroads, and for many years all supplies were drawn by horses or oxen from Perrysville and LaFayette and also from Chicago. At one time Mr. Partlow took a half barrel of honey to Chicago and supplied the whole town, returning home with a good portion of it. He was a resident of the old homestead until 1852, when he returned to Danville and lived retired until his death which occurred in May, 1866, aged sixty-two years. His wife's maiden name was Elizabeth H. Humphrey, a native of Kentucky. Her father, John Humphrey was born in Virginia and was one of the early settlers of Kentucky. She died in 1865. She was the mother of six children—Asa, Almira, who married Robert Davidson (now deceased); John H. died when fourteen years of age; David is also dead; Sarah A., married A. I. Draper, and they are residents of Danville; Elizabeth married Z. Morris, of Georgetown, this county, who is now dead.

Asa Partlow, whose name initiates this sketch, attended the pioneer public schools. He describes the first school-house, which he attended, as having no window, but simply a log was taken out wherewith to admit the light. As soon as he was large enough he was compelled to assist his father on the farm, but at the age of seventeen he went to

Georgetown, where he attended a seminary, and after that taught one term of school. In 1852 he formed a partnership with S. A. Humphrey and J. M. Partlow, under the firm name of Humphrey & Co. They prosecuted a general mercantile business, and financially were very successful. He was in the trade until 1873, with various partners, and in that year he sold out his store and engaged in the insurance business, and has built up a fine trade. He is also secretary of the Equitable Building and Loan Association.

In 1857 Mr. Partlow was united in marriage with Mary Murdock, who was born near LaFayette, Ind., March 15, 1831. She was the daughter of John and Jane Murdock, natives of New Jersey, and is the mother of the following children: Harry G. married Stella Doane and resides in Danville; Edwin R. and Augustus. Fannie Mabel died at the age of four years; Minnie Ellen died at the age of ten months.

Mr. and Mrs. Partlow are members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. Partlow has been steward and treasurer for a long time. He is also a member of Danville Lodge No. 69, I. O. O. F.

TRUMAN WILLIAMS. The farming community of Catlin Township has no more worthy representative than this venerable gentleman, and it gives us pleasure to insert a review of his life in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM. He has been a resident of this place for more than forty years, and during that time has improved a good farm on section 36, and has built up a cozy home, in which he and his estimable wife, who has worked by his side for more than half a century, are comfortably spending life's declining years, enjoying the respect and affection of all about them.

Eli Williams, the father of subject, was born in the good old New England State of Connecticut, as was also his mother, whose maiden name was Martha Aldermon. They first settled in their native State after their marriage, but subsequently removed from there to Pensylvania, and from thence to Onondago County, N. Y., and afterwards to Genesee County. Finally they returned to the Keystone State and settled in Crawford County, and there their earthly pilgrimage ceased, and they were gathered to their fathers at a ripe old age. Ten children were born of their marriage, five sons and five daughters, and of these our subject is the third in order of birth and the only one now living.

He was born in Onondago County, N. Y., Sept. 6, 1812. Those were pioneer times in that part of the country, and our subject was bred to a hardy manhood under their influence. He remained an inmate of the parental household till he was twenty-six years old, and then married and established a home of his own, his marriage with Miss Margaret Nelson taking place in Crawford County, Pa., Oct. 30, 1838. Mrs. Williams was born in that county Jan. 29, 1817, the third child in the family of nine children, two sons and seven daughters of James and Sarah (Sloan) Nelson. Her father was a native of Ireland, and came to America when he was about thirteen years old. His wife was a native of Virginia, and after their marriage they settled in Crawford County in an early day of its settlement, and lived there till death closed their earthly career.

After marriage our subject and his wife continued to live in Crawford County until the fall of 1846, and then with their little family of children they made their way across the country by the slow modes of traveling in those days, and came to the still wild and sparsely settled country, embraced in this part of the State of Illinois. They spent the first two years after their arrival in Danville Township, and at the expiration of that time located on the farm where they still make their home in Catlin Township. Its 120 acres are under good tillage and many valuable improvements have been made, so that as a whole it compares very favorably with the farms around it, and it yields fine harvests in repayment of the care bestowed on its tillage.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams are the parents of ten children, as follows: Minerva; Charles, who died when about six years old; Nancy, the wife of John Harrin; Clarissa, who was the wife of George Jamison, and died when about twenty-four years old;

Ann died when about ten years old; Elizabeth, the wife of John Gones; Nelson married Mrs. Ida (Childs) Doran; Charles married Luda Torrant; Truman married Isadora Valentine; Maggie is the wife of George Cook.

Mr. Williams inherited from a sterling New England ancestry the thrift and wisdom that have marked his course and the honorable traits of character that make him a good husband, father, neighbor, citizen. He has borne a part in the public affairs of his township and has served very acceptably as School Director and in minor offices. In politics, he firmly adheres to the Republican party. Religiously, both he and his wife have been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church a long term of years, and have always performed the duties incumbent upon them in a true Christian spirit.

WILLIAM WHITE, a veteran of the late war is numbered among the skilled farmers of Catlin Township, and his pleasantly located farm on section 2, with its well-tilled fields and attractive buildings, is one of the first-class places of this locality, and from its cultivation he derives an excellent income that puts him among the well-to-do agriculturists of his neighborhood.

James White, the father of our subject, was born in Baltimore, Md., while his mother, Hannah Rodgers, was a native of Perrysville, Vermillion Co., Ind. After marriage in 1839 these people settled in Perrysville, and there she died in 1845 while yet in life's prime. The father married again and in 1859 came with his family to Vermilion County, this State, and settling in Catlin Township, he made his home here till his demise July 6, 1882. He was a good man, who led an upright life, and was well thought of by the neighbors among whom he had lived for so many years. He was the father of three children by his first marriage, as follows: William, Samuel and Hannah.

William, of whom this sketch was written, was born in Perrysville, Vermillion Co., Ind., Oct. 30, 1841. His education, conducted in the common schools, was necessarily somewhat limited, as being the eldest of the family, his father required his assistance. He accompanied his father to this county in 1859, and has since been a useful citizen of this community. He had not attained his majority when the war broke out, and in August, 1862, though not yet of age, he patriotically resolved to do what he could to aid the cause of his country, and enlisted in Company K, 125 Illinois Infantry. To his regret his eyesight became impaired so much as to disable him for a soldier, and he was honorably discharged in October of the same year. Since then he has given his attention wholly to farming and stock-raising. He owns eighty acres of highly fertile land, which is under admirable cultivation and is well supplied with an excellent class of building, including a substantially built, commodious residence. He has his farm well stocked to its full capacity with cattle of good grades, and is doing well in that branch of agriculture.

Mr. White has been twice married. He was first wedded in Danville to Miss Susan Cook, by whom he had three children—Oscar, James and Susan. March 19, 1872, this happy household was bereft of the much loved wife and tender mother by her untimely death. Mr. White's second marriage, which took place in Georgetown Township, was to Miss Minerva Bowen. Three children blessed their union—Elmer who died when about a year old; Melvin and Dottie B. Jan. 11, 1889 the dark shadow of death again fell across the threshold of the dwelling of our subject, and in a few days all that was mortal of her who had been the home-maker was borne to its last resting place. In her happy wedded life she had been all that a true wife and mother could be; devoted to her husband's interests, and to the motherless children that thus fell to her charge she gave as much care and love as if they were her own, and in her death they have again lost a good mother, while her own darlings, the youngest a dear little girl, scarce two years old, have met with an irreparable loss.

Mr. White has succeeded by patient toil in placing himself on a solid basis financially speaking, and since becoming the owner of this farm has greatly increased its value by wise management and a judicious expenditure of money for improvements. He is a quiet, unassuming man, but withal

has that force of character that enables him to work with a purpose, and carry his plans to a successful issue. He has never given his fellow-citizens cause to distrust him, but has always aimed to do rightly by others. In politics, he affiliates with the Democrats, and is ever loyal to his party. For nearly nine years he has held the important office of School Director, and the educational interests of the township with which he has thus become identified have not suffered at his hands.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS. In a record comprising the history of the principal old settlers of Vermilion County, the name of Mr. Williams cannot properly be omitted. He established himself in township 23, range 12, in 1871, securing a tract of wild land, which, after years of arduous labor, he has converted into a comfortable homestead. It is 160 acres in extent, and pleasantly located on sections 18 and 19, the dwelling being on the latter. His career has been similar to that of many of the men around him, in which he has labored early and late to provide for the wants of coming years, and in all respects has conducted himself as an honest man and a good citizen.

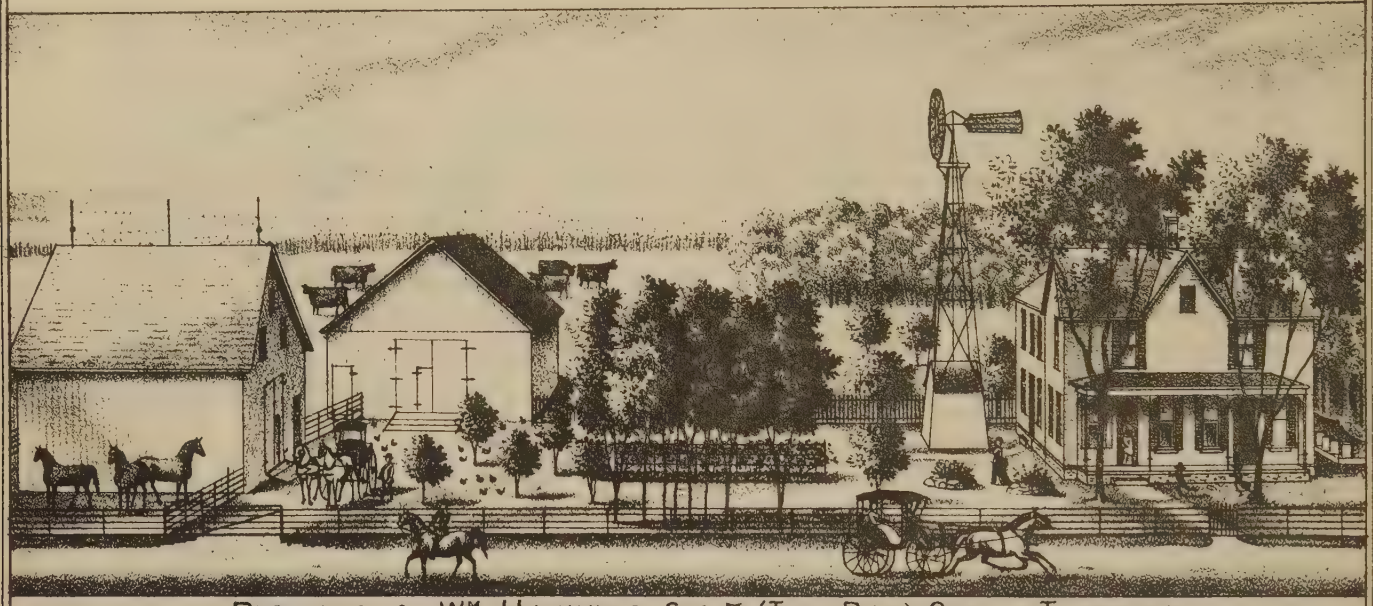
Mr. Williams is a native of the Prairie State, having been born in McLean County, Dec. 13, 1832. He was there reared to farming pursuits, and remained a member of his father's household until reaching his majority. He was blest with good common sense and excellent health, and made the most of his opportunities for obtaining a practical education in the common school. At the age of twenty-one years he began the battle of life on his own account, operating first on rented land, and within a few years purchased land and constructed a farm of his own.

In the fall of 1871 Mr. Williams took possession of the land which he now owns and occupies, at a time when it was nothing but raw prairie. He has effected all the improvements which we now behold, and which certainly do great credit to his taste and industry. He made it his business at an early day to set out a grove of young trees, which are now grown, and furnish a delightful shade for the residence and surroundings. Under his wise management the land has become highly productive. Mr. Williams at first purchased eighty acres, and subsequently added to it until he is the owner of the quarter-section. He has a goodly assortment of live stock, and the necessary conveniences for their care and keeping, besides the required machinery for running the farm in a scientific and profitable manner.

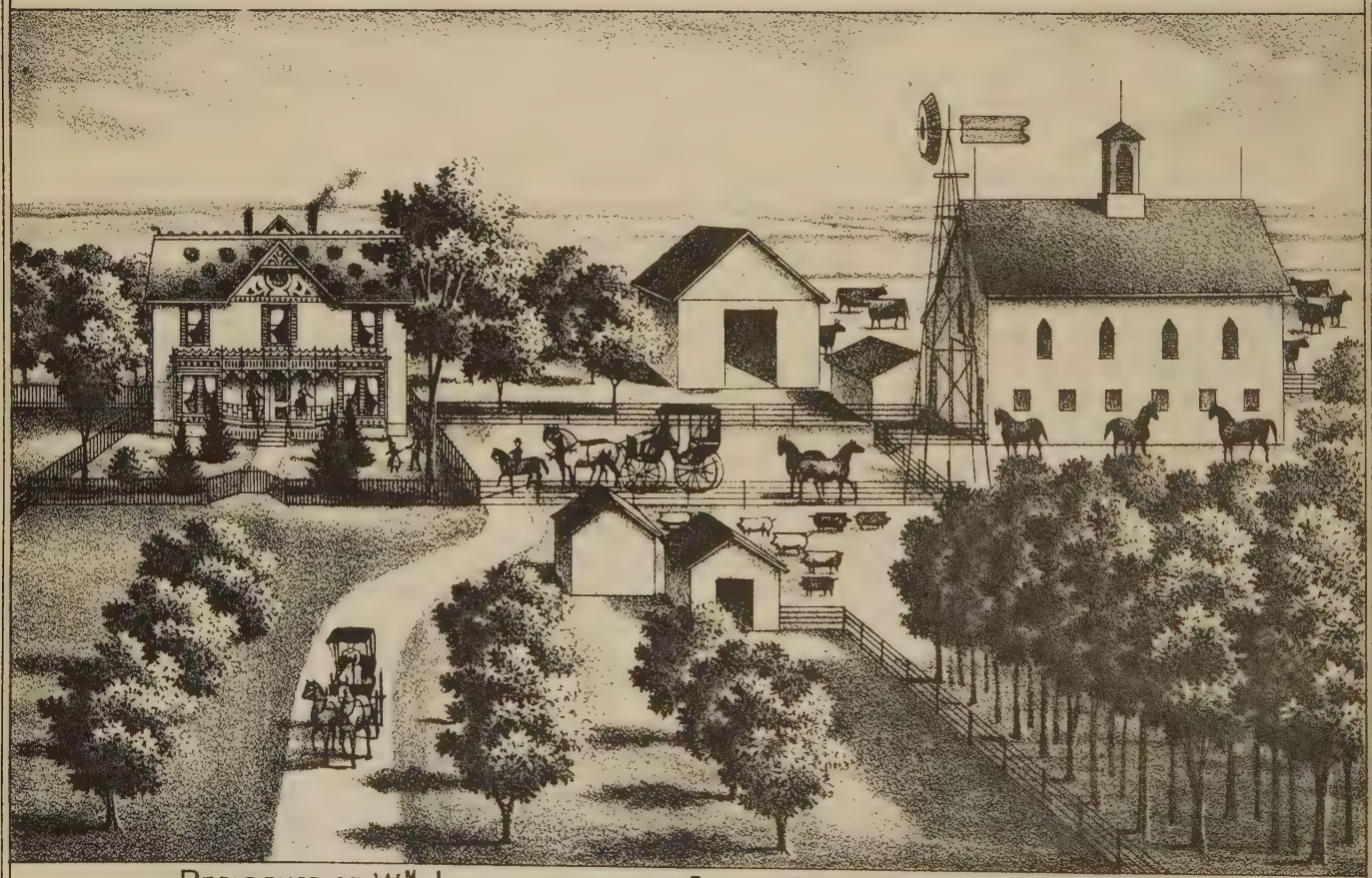
Shortly before reaching the twenty second year of his age Mr. Williams was married, Aug. 27, 1854, to Miss Abigail Dean. The young couple commenced the journey of life together on rented land in a manner corresponding to their means and surroundings, and worked with a mutual purpose for the future. In due time the household circle included six children, four of whom are living: Elnora is the wife of Samuel Umbanhowar; they live about one-half mile east of the Williams homestead, and are the parents of five children—Nellie, George, Charles, May and William. James J. married Miss Anna Sellers, and lives north of his father's place on a farm; he is the father of two children—Grace and Lula. Mary Evarilla, usually called Eva, and Jonathan Lee are at home with their parents.

Mrs. Abigail (Dean) Williams, the wife of our subject, was born in Knox County, Ohio, Nov. 20, 1833, and is the daughter of J. M. Dean, a native of Maryland. Mr. Dean emigrated when a young man to the Buckeye State, and was there married to Miss Mary Elwell. They removed to McLean County, this State, when their daughter Abigail was a maiden of seventeen years, and settled on a farm, where the father died in 1872 at the age of seventy years, and the mother in February, 1888, aged eighty-seven. They were the parents of nine children, five of whom are living, and residents of Illinois, Kansas and Nebraska.

William Williams, Sr., the father of our subject, was born in Tennessee, and when a young man came to McLean County, Ill., where he took up a tract of raw land, and began farming in true pioneer style. In McLean County he married Miss Evarilla Hobson, and they became the parents of



RESIDENCE OF WM. HAWKINS, SEC. 7., (T. 18. R. 12.) CATLIN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF WM. JURGENSMEYER, SEC. 23. (T. 18.- R. 14.) VANCE TOWNSHIP.

one child, William, our subject. Mr. Williams died when a young man, and his widow was subsequently married to J. G. Rayburn; she died in 1848, when her son William was a youth of sixteen years. She was a native of North Carolina, when she removed with her parents to Ohio, and from there to McLean County, where her father, Joshua Hobson, engaged in farming and spent the remainder of his life.

Mr. Williams, our subject, cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont, and while not mixing any with political affairs, has his own ideas in regard to matters and things, and gives his unqualified support to the Republican party. He is one of those solid old landmarks whose word is considered as good as his bond, and who can always be depended upon to do as he says.

WILLIAM HAWKINS. The citizen-soldier, who did so much toward saving the Union from destruction in the late war, has since, as is well-known, been a prominent element in furthering the development of the vast resources of our country, and has contributed largely to its material prosperity. As a representative of that element it gives us pleasure to transcribe to these pages a brief record of the life-work of William Hawkins. He is actively engaged in tilling the soil and raising stock in Vermilion County, having on section 7, Catlin Township, as finely improved and well cultivated a farm as is to be found throughout the length and breadth of this rich agricultural region.

Our subject is a native of Indiana, his birth taking place in Wayne County, Jan. 1, 1831. His parents, Nathan and Sarah (Wright) Hawkins, were also born in that county, and there they were reared and married, and in turn reared a family of ten children. The good mother passed away from the scenes amid which her entire life had been passed, stricken by the hand of death, but the aged father still survives, and makes his home in the place of his nativity.

He of whom we write was the eldest of the family, and was bred to the life of a farmer, and habits of industry and frugality were early taught him by precept and example. He engaged in farming, tending sawmill, and in other occupations till he had obtained man's estate, and in the spring of 1860 sought the fertile prairies of Vermilion County, this State, accompanied by his wife and child, with a view of establishing a home here permanently. He has since been a valued resident of Catlin Township, with the exception of the bitter years spent on Southern battlefields, when with true patriotism he heroically gave up home and tore himself from his loved ones to aid his country in the time of her greatest trial. He enlisted on the 11th of August, 1862, in Company G, 125th Illinois Infantry, and for three long and weary years served faithfully and efficiently through many hard campaigns, and suffered the hardships and privations of a soldier's life without a murmur. He took part in all the engagements with which his regiment had anything to do, with the exception of that at Chickamauga. At Dallas, Ga., while on picket duty, he came near being captured, but he cunningly managed to elude the rebels. His gallant conduct in the face of the enemy, received merited commendation from his superior officers and he was promoted to the rank of sergeant before his honorable discharge at Washington, D. C.

After his experience of military life Mr. Hawkins returned to this county, and resumed his interrupted labors, and has since given his entire attention to farming and stock-raising. He owns 170 acres of choice, well-tilled land, on which he has erected a fine set of buildings, including a roomy, substantially built residence, a view of which with the surrounding lawns, beautified by lovely shade trees, is an attractive addition to this volume.

March 28, 1855, Mr. Hawkins and Miss Duanah Burgoyne were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. Mrs. Hawkins is a native of Ohio, born in Muskingum County, Aug. 20, 1835, to James and Mary (Miner) Burgoyne, the former of English antecedents. The wedded life of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of four children, namely: Lizzie, the wife of George Patterson; Nora, the wife of Thomas Church; Ella; Etta.

Mr. Hawkins is a valued member of this community, and his loyalty to his country is as

marked as in the days when he courageously took his life in his hands and marched forth to do battle for its honor and the preservation of its integrity. In him the Republican party finds one who faithfully upholds its principles at the ballot box. He and his wife belong to the Presbyterian Church, and are zealous workers in the cause of religion, seeking to promote the moral and social elevation of the community.

WILLIAM JURGENSMEYER. The career of the subject of this biography illustrates in an admirable manner what may be accomplished by a man beginning at the foot of the ladder and by force of persistent industry making his way upward to a good position socially and financially. Upon coming to this county, Mr. Jurgensmeyer had very little means but is now quite an extensive land owner and has a homestead of great value embellished with fine buildings and everything to make life pleasant and desirable. His course in life should prove an encouraging example to the young man starting out dependent upon his own resources and with nothing but his own hands to pave his way to a worthy position among his fellow men.

The Jurgensmeyer family originated in Prussia where Gottlieb, the father of our subject, served as a soldier in the Prussian army three years, holding the rank of Lieutenant. He was married in early manhood to Miss Caroline Rohlfink, a native of his own Province and whom he met after coming to this country in Lancaster, Ohio. In that place they were married and lived about ten years. Thence they removed to Hamburg in the same county and five years later changed their residence to Hocking County, sojourning there also five years. Their next removal was to Logan, county seat of Hocking County, where they spent their last years and died within a week of each other, in 1870.

The father of our subject began life in this country without means, but was prospered in his labors as a farmer and besides comfortably supporting his family of ten children, managed to accumulate a goodly amount of property. Nine of these children lived to mature years and seven are now living. William, our subject, was the second child and was born March 30, 1843, in Lancaster, Ohio. He received very limited schooling and with the ax and mattock assisted in digging out two big farms in the Buckeye State. He remained with his father until twenty-three years of age, then, in 1867, left home for Illinois, coming directly to Fairmount, this county. Here he met an acquaintance, Jacob Illes, whose brother was well-known to his father's family. He staid with him about a week, then entered the employ of James Dickson with whom he worked for nine months. Later he engaged for a short time with a threshing machine and after that for four weeks earned $18 per week cutting corn.

Our subject now sent home for money and purchased 160 acres of land which is included in his present farm and of which he took possession in 1868. He put up a house, then returning to Ohio was married April 18, 1869, to Miss Elizabeth Hengst. The young couple shortly afterward directed their steps to their new home in this county and began laboring hand in hand with a mutual purpose in view. The young wife had come from her father's homestead well supplied with all modern conveniences, to a new country and a home then presenting few attractions. It required great courage and perseverance to meet the difficulties with which they had to contend, as they were poor and at one time they could not raise enough cash to mail a letter. Mr. Jurgensmeyer began breaking the sod and preparing his land for cultivation as rapidly as possible. There were fences to be laid and buildings erected and it required incessant labor to make both ends meet and carry on the desired improvements on the new farm.

The condition of things since that time have materially changed with our subject and his industrious and efficient wife. Their estate now comprises 640 acres of good land with as fine a residence as can be found in Vance Township. The main barn occupies an area of 60 x 54 feet with 20-foot posts, being built in that solid and sub-

stantial manner which will insure its solidity for the greater part of a century unless some very unusual catastrophe destroys it. A fine apple orchard of thirteen acres, more than supplies the needs of the family in this direction while there is a flourishing vineyard and an abundance of the smaller fruits. A beautiful grove of maple trees stands adjacent to the residence and the whole very nearly approaches the ideal country home, where peace and plenty abound. A view of their beautiful residence is presented on another page and will be appreciated by all the readers of this volume.

Stock-raising forms one of the distinctive features of the Jurgensmeyer farm, our subject having usually about 155 head of high-grade, Short-horn cattle, twenty-four head of horses and about 150 swine. It is conceded the world over that the sons of the Fatherland have especial good taste and discretion in the selection of their draft animals and in their care of them. Mr. Jurgensmeyer's favorite breed is the Clydesdales, while he has some fine roadsters of the Gold Dust strain. His sleek and well-fed stock are at once an ornament to the farm and a matter in which he may take pardonable pride.

Of the four children born to our subject and his estimable wife only two are living: Mary Elizabeth was born Sept. 18, 1871, and has received a good education completing her studies in the schools of Danville; she is a fine performer on the piano and has an elegant instrument which adds greatly to the home recreations. The son, Louis V., was born May 3, 1876, and is a bright and promising boy still pursuing his studies. Mr. Jurgensmeyer votes with the Democratic party on national issues but at the local elections aims to support the men best qualified to serve the interests of the people. He has served as School Director for a period of fifteen years, and with his excellent wife inclines to the doctrines of the Lutheran Church but there being no organization of that church in their township, they have united with the Methodist Episcopal Church and are greatly interested in Sunday-school work.

In the fall of 1864 Mr. Jurgensmeyer returned to his native land where he spent several months visiting some of the principal cities of Germany—Hanover, Bremen and Berlin, also going into England. This journey was a source of great enjoyment and much useful information, and Mr. Jurgensmeyer considered the time and money well spent, returning with enlarged views and noting with satisfaction the natural changes occurring among an energetic and progressive people.

The wife of our subject is the daughter of Lewis Hengst, who with his estimable wife is still living in Fairfield County, Ohio, both being in the seventieth year of their age, having been born the same year. Mr. and Mrs. Jurgensmeyer in addition to their own children took into their home and under their protecting love about 1882, a little girl, Edna Johnson, whom they purpose to keep until she shall have attained womanhood and goes to a home of her own. She was born Aug. 27, 1879, in Eugene, Vermillion Co., Ind., and will be given a good education with the careful training which they have bestowed upon their own children. Mrs. Jurgensmeyer is a very capable and intelligent lady and has done her full share in the accumulation of the fine estate, the taxes upon which each year add handsomely to the sum in the county treasury.

JAMES HAYS. Here and there upon the dusty highway of life we come across an individual plentifully moistened with the dew of human kindness, and of this class Mr. Hays is a shining light. All his neighbors testify to his generosity and hospitality, he being one who is ever ready to lend a helping hand to those in need, never asking or expecting any return. He has a comfortable homestead, comprising a good farm on section 14 in Vance Township, where he pursues the even tenor of his way, letting the world wag as it will and striving to do good as he has opportunity.

In referring to the parental history of Mr. Hays, we find that his father, Benjamin Hays, was a native of Fayette County, Ohio, and born March 5, 1809. The paternal grandparents were natives of Kentucky, and two uncles of our subject served

in the War of 1812, one receiving an honorable wound in the leg, from which he recovered.

Benjamin Hays, in 1829, was married to Miss Elizabeth Thompson, in Fayette County, Ohio, where he operated as a farmer and trader, and sojourned there with his family about forty years. Then, emigrating to Illinois, he settled on 320 acres of land in the vicinity of Sydney, Champaign County, 200 acres of which he brought to a fine state of cultivation. The journey hither was made overland, in 1850, with teams, the travelers being thirteen days on the road. The family included nine children, of whom only three are living, James being the eldest of these. The others are Mrs. Martha Humes, of Sidney, and Mrs. Maggie Harding, of San Francisco, Cal. The mother died on the 9th of August, 1870.

After the death of his wife, Benjamin Hays broke up housekeeping, sold his farm and purchased property in Sidney, Ill. Later, he went to Ohio on a visit, which he prolonged about six years. Upon returning to Illinois, he took up his abode with his son, our subject, with whom he has since lived, and is now in his eightieth year. He rides about the farm on horseback every day, looks after the stock, and is in splendid health, playing his violin and dancing with much of the grace and agility of his earlier years. He is a great lover of the equine race, and has owned some valuable horseflesh, among which was "Buck Elk," a Kentucky racer of phenomenal speed, and "Cherokee," a very fine animal which he purchased of Thomas Eads.

The subject of this sketch was the second child of his parents, and was born Dec. 10, 1830, in the same house in Fayette County, Ohio, wherein his honored father first opened his eyes to the light of day. He received a practical education in the common school, mostly under one teacher, David Eastman, who died about fourteen years ago. He made his home with his father on the farm, assuming many of the responsibilities, until twenty-two years of age, when he began the business of life for himself by breaking prairie with seven yoke of oxen. In the winter of 1852–53 he fed 100 head of cattle for Hendrickson & Cowling. In the spring of 1853, April 16, he started with these cattle on foot for New York City, where he arrived safely on the 11th of July. The head steer of the herd was led by Henry White, of Champaign. This errand executed, Mr. Hays returned home, and in due time started with another lot of cattle from Parish's Grove, near LaFayette, Ind., driving them through to Lancaster, Pa., and being 105 days on the road. Upon returning home, he engaged in a store at Old Homer for two years, and in the meantime shipped a load of cattle to Chicago for his father. Afterward he handled considerable stock for other parties. He assisted in removing the first house from Old Homer to the present town, and all this time watched the growth and development of Central Illinois with that abiding interest which is only felt by the intelligent and thoughtful citizen.

The 6th of May, 1858, witnessed the marriage of our subject with Miss Mary E., daughter of J. M. Custer and sister of Mrs. Aaron Dalbey. These were the only girls in the Custer family. Mrs. Hays was born Oct. 10, 1838, in Fayette County, Ohio, and was ten years old when she came with her parents to Illinois. She received her education in both States, and grew up a very attractive young woman, with a large amount of practical good sense. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Hays lived in Sidney two years, removing to their present home in 1861.

The neat and well-regulated farm of our subject bears very little resemblance to the uncultivated tract of land upon which he and his young wife settled upon coming to this county. It was then an open prairie, unfenced and without buildings. Although making no pretentions to elegance, they live comfortably, and probably enjoy more solid happiness than many who make a greater display in the world. The five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hays are all living. The eldest, Dollie E., is the wife of George T. Poage, a merchant at Prairie View, and they have two children; Mattie E. married Amos C. Harden, who is now deceased, is the mother of one child, and lives three miles west of Fairmount; William S., Ella and John M. remain at home with their parents.

Mrs. Hays and most of her children are members in good standing of the Cumberland Presby-

terian Church, and Mr. H., although not identified with any religious organization, has a full belief in the doctrines of the Christian religion. He maintains a lively interest in politics, and keeps himself well posted in regard to those questions of interest to every intelligent citizen. Upon becoming a voting citizen, he identified himself with the Democratic party, but in 1860, when Abraham Lincoln had steal his way to Washington for fear of assassination, Mr. Hays said to himself, "James, this party is not your right place." Since that time he has been a decided Republican. He is a strong temperance man, never having used ardent spirits, and steadily opposes their manufacture. Aside from serving as a Road Overseer in 1864, he has steadily declined becoming an office-holder. Socially, he belongs to Homer Lodge No. 199, A. F. & A. M., being the oldest member but one, entering the lodge after its formation, and in this he officiated only as Tyler, although he might have held all the other offices.

MILES ODLE. This gentleman is one of the most prominent and best known citizens in the northeastern part of this county. He was born in Warren County, Ind., Dec. 26, 1841, and was brought up to farming, receiving in his boyhood such education as could be obtained in the common schools of his native place. His parents were Nathan B. and Frances (Watkins) Odle, the father a farmer in the place where his son was born. Our subject remained quietly at the home farm until the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion, when he offered his services to his country and enlisted, while still under age, on June 3, 1861, in Company A., 15th Indiana Infantry, commanded by Col. D. G. Wagner and on the 14th of the same month, was mustered into the United States service at Lafayette, Ind. For over three years the young soldier did valiant service in his country's cause. His regiment was first engaged in active duty in West Virginia and three months after being mustered in, was in the battle of Cheat Mountain, W. Va., on Sept. 12, 1861, and on Oct. 3, following, was engaged at Greenbrier Springs, W. Va., both being Federal successes. In November, 1861, the 15th Indiana was transferred to the army of the Ohio, under Gen. Buell, Nelson's division, and here Mr. Odle took a part in several general engagements. He was in the great battle of Shiloh, Tenn., begun on April 6, 1862, his regiment taking part on the second day, when the hardest fighting was done, Buell arriving on the 7th in time to reinforce Grant's troops. He was under fire at the siege of Corinth, Miss., and after the evacuation of that place, went East with his regiment to Decatur, Ala., and later from there to Tuscumbia, Tenn., and was in all the toilsome marches and maneuvers, undertaken to prevent the return of the rebel, Gen. Bragg to Kentucky. Finally the Union army fell back on Nashville, Tenn., and from that point were sent to Louisville, Ky. The first open battle between the opposing forces fighting for the possession of Kentucky was fought at Perryville on Oct. 8, 1862, and in that the 15th Indiana were active participants. They were then returned to Nashville, where they stayed uuntil Dec. 26, 1862, when they were hurried to the front, and were engaged on the last day of the year on the hotly contested field of Stone River. The following year they were all through the Tullahoma campaign, and were afterwards engaged at the battle of Chickamauga on Sept. 19, and in the great fight at Mission Ridge, they were a part of the army that marched to the relief of Knoxville, when it was beleaguered by the enemy, and succeeding that were in many minor battles and skirmishes. The 15th Indiana, were no holiday soldiers, but during their entire term of service, were actively engaged, marching and fighting, and in all their trials, hardships, battles, and skirmishes, Mr. Odle bore himself as a brave and gallant soldier. His term of service having expired, he was mustered out at Indianapolis on the 30th of June, 1864. Returning then to the pursuits of peace Mr. Odle engaged in farming in his native county, in which he remained until he decided to make his home in Vermilion County, Ill. He bought 120 acres of land on section 3 in Grant Township, now a part of his homestead, and to that place removed in March 1871, and there his home has since been. To this property he has added by subsequent purchase,

having now a fine farm of 490 acres, all thoroughly improved and cultivated with a good house and farm buildings, and worth probably about $18,000. In addition to this Mr. Odle is the owner of a farm of 320 acres in Holt County, Neb., and of other real estate, and personal property, and all has been acquired by his own energy, industry, and foresight. He is a man of keen business judgment, and his success is the legitimate reward of his close attention to his own affairs.

Although always a farmer, Mr. Odle has been a a successful merchant as well. The store in Cheneyville, in this township, was his property, and on Dec. 1, 1886, he took it into his own possession, and under his own immediate care and direction he successfully carried on mercantile business there until May 1889, when he exchanged it for a Western farm.

The subject of this sketch has been twice married—first on Aug. 30, 1866 to Miss Susan Hunter, who was born Nov. 25, 1847 and died May 17, 1870, leaving two children, Ella Florence, born Sept. 17, 1867, and Anna Ross, Oct. 18, 1869. The first wife's parents are both living in Warren County, Ind., at the advanced age of seventy years.

Mr. Odle was on Jan. 12, 1872, united in marriage with Sarah E. Hunter, born Jan. 22, 1850. His present wife was a daughter of John Hunter, a farmer of Warren County, Ind. He was a native of Scotland, and came to this country when eighteen years old, in the year 1836. He staid in the city of New York for a couple of years, and then emigrated to Warren County, Ind., of which he was a very early settler. There he adopted the vocation of a farmer. He died Nov. 18, 1880, when nearly sixty-three years of age. He was a well-informed man and took considerable interest in public affairs, but never held office. In politics he was a staunch Republican, and through the Civil War an ardent supporter of the Government. He was married in Warren County, Jan. 13, 1842, to Miss Jane Montgomery, a native of Kentucky, born April 22, 1820. They had eight children, of whom five are now living. Mrs. Hunter lives with her different children but her home is with Mrs. Odle.

Mr. and Mrs. Odle have five children, as follows: Hattie Letitia, born Feb. 21, 1874; John Lindsay, Aug. 3, 1875; Miles Sherman, Nov. 2, 1878; Nathan W., Nov. 2, 1880, and Frances J., Nov. 3, 1883.

Mr. Odle is a man of mark and influence, in the community in which he lives, and his sound judgment leads his advice to be sought by his neighbors in business affairs. From comparatively humble beginnings, he has raised himself to the position he now occupies. and the competence he has acquired he is justly entitled to. For a number of years he has been a School Trustee in Grant Township, and from 1885 to 1889, was Justice of the Peace. He is a member of Harmon Post No. 115, G. A. R., of Hoopeston, and in politics is a staunch adherent of the Republican party in all State and National affairs.

ORIN M. DANIEL is extensively identified with the agricultural interests of Vermilion County, and is one of its most enterprising, energetic and able farmers. He has a fine farm on section 20, Danville Township, comprising sixty acres, pleasantly located on the Georgetown Road, two and one-half miles from the court-house. He also leases a large tract of land from the coal company, and has 1,000 acres under his personal supervision, and in addition has the contract to furnish timber to the Grape Creek and Consolidated Coal Company.

Mr. Daniel was born June 19, 1842, in Mooresville, Delaware Co., N.Y., and is a son of Aaron Burr Daniel, a native of the same place, who was in turn a son of Mathew Daniel. The latter was a native of Scotland who came to America when a young man, and so far as known, is the only member of his family that came to this country. He located in the wilderness at Mooresville, buying a tract of timbered land, from which he cleared a farm and resided there some years. He then sold that place, and removing to Deposit about 1840, bought a farm there on which he made his home till death claimed him. The maiden name of his wife was Eunice Sturgis, who is thought to have

been a native of New York State, and her last days were also passed on the homestead in Deposit. The father of our subject was reared and married in his native county, and then bought a farm one mile from Deposit, located partly in Delaware and partly in Broome County. He resided there till 1870, prosperously prosecuting his calling, and then came to Vermilion County, where he is now passing the declining years of a busy, honorable life. He has been twice married, and is the father of twelve children, seven by the first marriage and five by the second.

Orin M. Daniel of this brief biographical review was educated in the public schools of his native town, and from his father received a sound, practical training in agricultural pursuits. He remained under the parental roof till he was twenty-one, and then in the pride of a vigorous, self-reliant manhood, he came West to try life in the Prairie State, rightly thinking that its rich soil offered many inducements for one who intended at some time to become a farmer. He came to Danville, but did not at first enter upon his career as a farmer but was employed by his uncles in the coal business. He subsequently engaged on the Illinois Central Railway in some capacity for two years. At the expiration of that time he returned to his native New York, and was engaged in farming and other kinds of work in that part of the country till 1872. In that year he came back to Illinois and obtained employment with the Ellsworth Coal Company, remaining with them five years. Since first coming here he had wisely saved his money, and at the expiration of that time had enough to invest in a good farm and so bought the one where he now resides. It is well tilled, is supplied with substantial, conveniently arranged buildings and all kinds of machinery for conducting agriculture in the best possible manner, and it is indeed a model farm. We have referred to his other interests in the first part of this sketch.

In June 2, 1868, Mr. Daniel took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Jane Thompson, who has proved to him a veritable helpmate, and he is indebted to her for aiding him to become prosperous. She was born in Delhi, Delaware Co., N.Y., May 8, 1841, to Robert and Nellie (Shaw) Thompson. The pleasant household of our subject and his wife is completed by the five children born to them: Orin, Alvin, Walter F., Perry, Effie.

Mr. Daniel is a busy man, devoting his time to his many and varied interests, and while so doing has done much to promote the material prosperity of his township and county. He is prompt and systematic in his work and knows how to conduct it so as to produce the best results financially. He and his wife are esteemed members of the Presbyterian Church, contribute liberally to its support, and are always active in advancing all charitable and benevolent objects. In politics Mr. Daniel is a decided Democrat. Socially he is a member of Vermilion Camp, No. 244 M. W. A.

REUBEN JACK, Notary Public and engaged in the insurance business at Fairmount, is a man of note in his community, possessing good business capacities and making for himself the record of an honest man and a good citizen. He was born in Carroll County, Ind., March 19, 1840, and was the eldest child of Silas S. and Bashaba (Elmore) Jack who were both natives of Ohio, and the mother belonging to the Society of Friends. They left their native State in their youth and were married in Tippecanoe County, Ind., in 1837.

The parents of our subject remained residents of Indiana until April, 1860, then came to this county and located in Fairmount. Only three of their children lived to mature years, viz: two daughters and Reuben, our subject. During the progress of the Civil War the father enlisted in Company E, 73d Illinois Infantry in August, 1862 and was given the post of Orderly Sergeant. He soon afterward contracted a fatal disease and died in the hospital at St. Louis on the 11th of September following. The mother survived her husband over twenty years, remaining a widow, and died in January, 1883.

Our subject acquired his education in the common school of his native State and when approaching manhood learned the trade of a shoemaker

which he has followed continuously until quite recently. He remained at home with his parents until after the outbreak of the Rebellion and enlisted in the same company and at the same time with his father. He was first made a Corporal and later promoted to a Sergeant. He served three years and engaged in all the marches and battles in which his regiment participated, being at Stone River, Chattanooga, Mission Ridge and all the battles of the Atlanta campaign, including Franklin and Nashville. Aside from the natural effects of hardship and exposure on his constitution, and a slight affection of his eyes, he escaped uninjured, being neither wounded or taken prisoner. He was under the command of Gen. George H. Thomas, Phil Sheridan, Granger, Rosecrans, Sherman, O. O. Howard and Grant, at the time when James A. Garfield was Adjutant General of Rosecran's army. He received his honorable discharge with his regiment in June, 1865. Like thousands of others who were willing to offer up their lives as a sacrifice to their country, he was content in knowing that he had done his whole duty, standing his his ground during the enemy's fire and bearing with fortitude and patience the vicissitudes of a soldier's life.

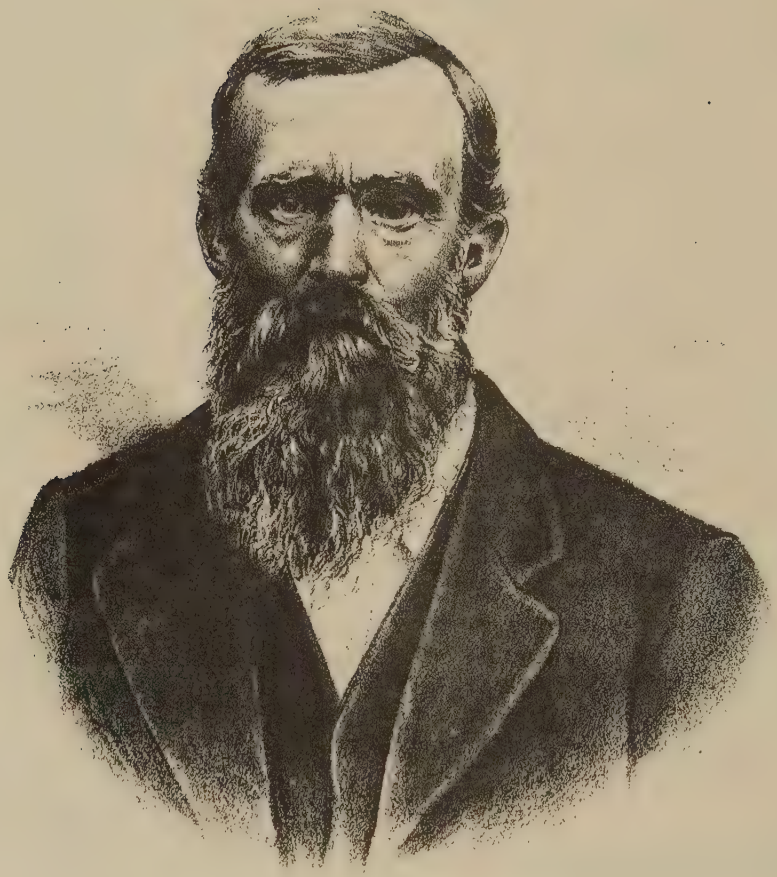
Upon retiring from the army Mr. Jack resumed work at his trade and on the 9th of August, 1865, was married in Fairmount to Miss Mary, daughter of Daniel Shroyer. This lady was born in Indiana and departed this life in Fairmount, Feb. 20, 1869, leaving no children. Our subject contracted a second matrimonial alliance June 15, 1870, with Miss Frances, daughter of Charles Rufing, of Delphi, Ind. Mrs. Frances Jack departed this life March 7, 1871, without children.

Mr. Jack was married to his present wife, formlerly Miss Jennie Fellows, Sept. 17, 1872. Mrs. Jennie Jack was born in Wells County, Ind , and is the daughter of George and Mary Fellows, who are now, the mother in Fairmount the father deceased. This union resulted in the birth of two children—George B., born June 7, 1875, and Nellie, June 26, 1884. They are a bright pair and will be given the education and advantages suited to their position in life.

Mr. Jack has been quite prominent in local affairs. He was elected Assessor and Collector of Vance Township, in 1884, and has been re-elected each year since that time. In 1872 he was elected Township Clerk, holding the office until 1881. In 1877 he was elected Justice of the Peace and served eight years. He cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln and has ever continued a staunch supporter of the Republican party. As an ex-soldier he was one of the leading members of the G. A. R. at Fairmount, which has recently surrendered its charter. In this organization he was first an Adjutant and later a Commander. In the I. O. O. F. he is a member of Homer Lodge, No. 252, in which he is Past Grand. He formerly belonged to the Lodge at Fairmount in which he held all the offices, until it disbanded.

Our subject and his estimable wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Jack has been an earnest Sunday-school worker for years, officiating as Superintendent of the school and Trustee of the church. A man of domestic tastes and correct habits, he makes it his aim and object to stand on the right side of all questions and give his support to those projects calculated to benefit the community, socially, morally and financially. In connection with his other business already spoken of, he does some conveyancing and represents as a Fire Insurance Agent, the Phœnix of Brooklyn, the Hartford and the Ætna. He is gentlemanly, courteous and liberal, and while not possessed of great wealth manages to stand square with the world and extract a large measure of comfort and happiness from life.

GUY SANDUSKY. The surname of this gentleman is well-known in Vermilion County as that of a pioneer family who had a share in its early development and in promoting its later growth. The subject of this sketch is a worthy representative of his sire and grandsire, who planted their homes here when the surrounding country was a wilderness, and, in doing so, purchance were more fortunate than they at first deemed possible, and he of whom we write is en-



James Clifton

joying the result of their labors, as well as of his own active toil. He was born Feb. 5, 1854, on the old homestead on section 34, Catlin Township, that he now owns and occupies, and here he has erected a handsome residence, one of the most attractive homes in the county. He is carrying on agriculture and stock-raising with great skill, and from his 300-acre farm derives a substantial income.

The parents of our subject, Josiah and Elizabeth (Sandusky) Sandusky, were natives of Bourbon County, Ky., where they married, and immediately came to this township. The father had lived in this county while a single man, having removed here with his parents as early as 1819, and he went back to Bourbon County, Ky., to marry. His father, Isaac Sandusky, had come here in the early days of its settlement, he accompanying him, and had made a claim, and before his death accumulated quite a little property. In 1837 the father and mother of our subject, after their marriage, settled in this county, and lived at Brook's Point some two or three years, and then Isaac Sandusky, the paternal grandfather of our subject, dying, the father was appointed administrator of the estate, and coming to Catlin Township with his family, he located southwest of Catlin Village on section 34. He resided with his wife on this homestead until his demise Sept. 15, 1868, she surviving him until Jan. 10, 1884. Of their eight children four lived to maturity, three sons and a daughter.

Guy Sandusky, of whom we write, was the third child of the family, and he was born and reared on the old homestead where he has spent his entire life. His education was conducted in the common schools, and was supplemented at home by a wise training from his worthy parents, and on arriving at years of discretion he chose farming, of which he had a thorough, practical knowledge, as the pursuit best adapted to his tastes. He has a good-sized farm that is complete in all its appointments, and is, indeed, one of the choicest places in the whole township. It is amply provided with a conveniently arranged set of buildings for every necessary purpose, and with all kinds of machinery for lightening the labors of farm life. The residence is one of the handsomest in the county.

Mr. Sandusky and Miss Ada M. Williamson were united in marriage Nov. 12, 1876, and to them has come one child, Inez. Mrs. Sandusky is a daughter of Henry and Jane (Gray) Williamson, natives respectively of Ohio and Indiana, and now residents of Linn County, Kan. Mrs. Sandusky was born about ten miles northwest of Danville Oct. 15, 1858.

Mr. Sandusky possesses an abundant and never failing supply of sound sense and sharpness, coupled with a faculty of doing well whatever he attempts, so that his success in his chosen calling is not at all surprising. The Democratic party finds in him a steadfast supporter through fair and through foul report. He is a valued member of Catlin Lodge No. 285, A. F. & A. M.

JAMES CLIFTON. The results of perseverance and energy have been admirably illustrated in the career of this gentleman, who is one of the most prosperous citizens in a prosperous community, who has been the architect of his own fortune and is in the enjoyment of a competence. He is approaching the fifty-seventh year of his age, having been born Oct. 8, 1832, and has spent his entire life in Vermilion County, Ill., in Georgetown Township where he was born. He remembers the time when wild animals abounded in this region and killed deer within the limits of this township as late as twenty-five years ago.

William Clifton, the father of our subject, was a native of Ohio and married Miss Jane Brown, who was born in Tennessee. The grandparents emigrated to Illinois about 1827, when the parents of our subject were in their youth and the latter were married in Vermillion County, Ind. They became the parents of thirteen children, six sons and seven daughters, and spent their last years in Vermilion County, Ill., the father dying at the age of fifty-seven and the mother when sixty-two years old.

The paternal grandfather of Mr. James Clifton was of English birth, but came to make his home under our Republican form of government. He was married and became the father of two children

in Ohio. A short time before the birth of his son, William Clifton, he started for his old home in England and was never afterward seen or heard of.

The early education of our subject was conducted in the log school house of the primitive times, upon the subscription plan and carried on during the winter season. In the summer he assisted in the development of the new farm, grubbing out the stumps, chopping, breaking prairie and sometimes flat-boating on the river. Hunting formed his chief recreation—a pastime of which he was extremely fond. He served an apprenticeship at the cooper's trade, which he followed mostly for a period of fifteen years. In the meantime he was married June 14, 1855, to Miss Martha, daughter of Abraham and Sarah (Brown) Barnhard.

The parents of Mrs. Clifton removed from Ohio to Indiana at an early date and in that State Mrs. Clifton was born, reared and married. Soon after the wedding the young people took up their abode in Georgetown Township, where our subject occupied himself at his trade but kept steadily in view his intention of becoming owner of a farm. He accomplished his project and is now the proprietor of 205 acres. This was mostly in a wild condition when he assumed possession, but now forms one of the finest farms in the township. It makes a most delightful and attractive home while at the same time it is the source of a handsome income.

Seven children have been born to our subject and his estimable wife, the eldest of whom, a son, William, died when four months old. The others are Ella, Stephen A. D., Olive, Laura, Alonzo, who died at the age of two years, and James, Jr. Ella is the wife of H. G. Canady, and resides at Vermilion Grove and has one child, Estella; Stephen operates a fine farm of 305 acres in Georgetown Township; the other surviving children are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Clifton are prominently connected with the Presbyterian Church and our subject, politically, is one of the warmest adherents of the Democratic party. Public-spirited and liberal, he is ever found giving his cordial support to those enterprises calculated to benefit his community, and possesses those qualities of character which have made him a universal favorite both in social and business circles.

Among the most valuable features of this volume is a fine portrait of James Clifton, which is presented elsewhere.

DR. S. A. COFFMAN, physician and surgeon, is the pioneer of his profession in the the town of Allerton. He is a young man of more than average ability and is rapidly increasing his practice. The growth and development of his adopted town command his earnest and intelligent attention.

Dr. Coffman is a native of Gallipolis, Gallia Co., Ohio. His father, Capt. Josiah Coffman, was one of the most prominent river captains and pilots on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, his acquaintance extending from Pittsburg to New Orleans. He ran his first barge down the rivers mentioned to New Orleans, when he was eighteen years of age and at that time began his popularity as a river man. He purchased a farm in Gallia County but did not remain long in the business of agriculture. His last boat was the "Pine Ridge," one of the largest steamers that navigated the Ohio River. He died in 1866 at the age of fifty-two years. His wife continued on the farm until her death, which occurred in June 1879. She was born at Shelbyville, Ind.

The parents of Dr. Coffman, had twelve children of whom eight were boys and nine are now living. The Doctor was born on May, 12, 1858 and was but seven years old when his father died. He was reared in Ohio, where his educational advantages were of the best. He first attended the common schools at home, then the High Schools. He was engaged in West Virginia for two years in teaching. From his boyhood days his inclinations were all toward the medical profession, and during the time he was teaching he was studying to the end that he might some day enter its ranks. His first studies, medically, were under Dr. T. F. Siencknecht, of Kingston, Tenn., with whom he continued his studies for eighteen months, when he became destitute of means. He then came West, spending one year in Missouri and from there he

went to the Indian Territory, finally landing at Ossawottamie, Kan., where he engaged in the hospital for the insane. Here his preceptor was Dr. A. H. Knapp, of that institution. By this time his means were sufficient to take him through the Beaumont Hospital and Medical College from which he graduated March 15, 1888, standing near the head of his class. He was married in Kansas to Miss Hattie E. Smith, a native of Columbus, Wis. She is the daughter of Asa and Mary Smith, who were pioneers of Sumner County, Kan. Through the influence of Dr. Parks and others, the subject of this sketch was induced to locate at Allerton, which he did in 1887 and where he is achieving success to a large degree. In his practice he has met with no obstructions but has steadily gained the confidence of his clients. The Doctor is an ardent Republican, and is always ready to do anything to forward the interests of his party, that lies in the path of honor. He is examiner for the Manhattan Life Insurance Company, and is also a member of the St. Louis Medical Association.

Dr. Coffman was one of twelve children whose names follow: Elizabeth, Joseph C., William, Harriet; Daniel M., Cyrus P., Thomas J., Cunningham, Sylvan G., Emma, Sylvester and Ella. Elizabeth married Henry Irion, a farmer of Gallia County, Ohio; Joseph C. served in the Union Army, enlisting at the age of eighteen years, coming out of the service with the rank of Lieutenant. After the war was over he was commissioned in the regular army serving at Ft. Riley, Ark., and at Fort Union, N. M. He resigned from the army, when he commenced the study of law, graduating at Ann Arbor and is now practicing at Quincy, Ill. He married Miss Carrie Hawk; Harriet married the Rev. Rose, who is her second husband, and a pastor in the Methodist Church in Athens, Ohio. She had five children by her first husband, James Hamilton; Daniel M. resides at Rockwood, Tenn. He is an attorney at law and married Miss Romaine Blazer, they have one child; Cyrus P., died at the age of eighteen years; Thomas is practicing law at Hume, Ill. He married Estasia Kerns. They have four children; Cunningham died in Texas at the age of twenty-eight; William, who was a twin brother to Joseph, died when one year old; Emma is a resident of Anoka, Minn.; she married J. C. Willey, a railroad contractor and has three children; Ella resides in St. Paul, and is the wife of W. Thornley, who is a contractor in that city.

JOHN C. SALLADAY. The life-long career of this gentleman is one which his children will love to contemplate in future years. In his make up, he is possessed of modesty, good manners, sound sense and high principles. He has all the qualities of a good citizen, is a kind husband and father and in all respects approaches the ideal of the Christian gentleman. We find him situated in a comfortable home, the possessor of a pretty farm, and his family relations leave little to be desired. His property is pleasantly located on Section 3 in Vance Township.

Mr. Salladay was the eldest child of his parents and was born in Fayette County, Pa., April 16, 1831. When a little lad of three years he removed with his parents to Ohio and acquired a good education in the common schools of the Buckeye State, pursuing his studies mostly during the winter season until twenty years of age. In the meantime he became familiar with farming pursuits and remained a member of the parental household until reaching his majority.

In December, 1855, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary J., daughter of Daniel A. Rich of Ohio, a prominent farmer in his community. There were four children of whom Mrs. Salladay was the second and she was born in Ohio in 1833. Her childhood and youth passed quietly and uneventfully, during which time she attended the common school and received careful home-training from her excellent parents. The young people after their marriage settled on the home farm of the Salladay's, our subject working it upon shares with his father until 1860. He then purchased fifty acres of land and made his home upon this until 1861 when he sold out and set his face toward the farther West.

Upon coming to Illinois Mr. Salladay purchased

the land constituting his present farm and commenced at first principles to build up a homestead. He was prospered in his labors as a tiller of the soil and added to his real estate until he has now 163 acres in the home farm and 160 acres in Poweshiek County, Iowa. In connection with general agriculture, he is considerably interested in stock-raising, keeping a good grade of cattle and shipping each year to the eastern market.

Five children came to bless the union of our subject and his good wife, one of whom died at the age of eight years. Salina and George D. remain with their parents; Florence is the wife of J. H. Bowen and lives three miles south of the home farm; John B. remains at the latter. Mr. Salladay cast his first presidential vote for John P. Hale and is one of the most active members of the Republican party in this section. He keeps himself well posted in relation to current events and votes with his party upon the national issues. In local matters he aims to support the man best qualified for office, irrespective of party. He has officiated as a delegate to the county conventions and is a School Director in his district which office he has held for twenty years. He has been Highway Commissioner for six years. He and his estimable wife find their religious home in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in which Mr. Salladay has been an Elder six years and when a younger man labored actively in the Sunday-school.

Our subject is the offspring of an excellent family, being the son of George and Rebecca (Craft) Salladay, who were natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. Grandfather John Salladay emigrated from the Fatherland at an early period in the history of this country and settled in Pennsylvania. Upon the coming of the Revolutionary War he was a baggage master in the Continental Army from the beginning to its close. The maternal grandparents of our subject were born in Pennsylvania but were of German descent. The parents of Mr. Salladay were married in Pennsylvania, where the mother died in 1833, leaving two children—our subject and a younger brother. The father subsequently remarried, and in 1834 removed to Ohio where he sojourned for a period of thirty years. Thence he came to this county in the spring of 1864, residing here until 1877. His next removal was to Homer, Champaign County, where he lived eleven years, dying in September, 1888. The mother survives and makes her home with her son-in-law, Mr. Bennett, near Homer and is now seventy-six years old. Both the Craft and the Salladay families were people of note in their community, distinguished for the high principles and sturdy industry which were among the characteristics of their German nationality. They were uniformly well-to-do, industrious and frugal and uniformly exercised a good influence upon the various communities in which they resided. The subject of this sketch is one of the worthiest of their descendants, perpetuating the name with dignity and honor.

ALBERT G. OLMSTEAD is a worthy descendant of Puritan ancestry, his forefathers having been numbered among the early settlers of New England. In a later day and generation his grandparents and parents became pioneers of Vermilion County, and here the most of his life has been passed. He has not only been a witness of the marvelous growth of this section of the country in the fifty years that he has lived here as boy and man, but it has been his good fortune to aid in its upbuilding. For many years he has been intimately connected with the material prosperity of Catlin Township as a progressive and skillful agriculturist, and as one of its most influential public officers. He owns a farm on section 23, that in all its appointments and improvements is equal to any other in this locality, and here he and his wife have an attractive home, to which they welcome many friends, as they have a warm place in the hearts of the entire community.

Stanley Olmstead, the father of our subject, was born in the city of Hartford, Conn., to George Olmstead, Sr., and his wife, Hannah (Roberts) Olmstead, natives of New England. They came to Vermilion County from Ohio in 1839, and he died here two years later. His wife did not long survive

him, dying in September, 1843. Their son, Stanley, married Almira Green, a native of Vermont, and they began the journey of life together in Jamestown, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., where he was busily engaged for several years in constructing a farm from the primeval forests of that section of the country. He subsequently removed from there with his family to Marietta, Washington Co., Ohio, but after living there five years, he came with them, in 1839, to Vermilion County, making the journey down the Ohio River, up the Wabash River to Perrysville, and thence going to what is now known as Batestown, and settling in that vicinity among the pioneers that had preceded them to this then wild, sparsely settled country. The father operated a sawmill known as Olmstead Mill, and besides manufacturing lumber, engaged in building flatboats, that being the only mill where such boats were built, and the most of those that were made in this section of the country were built there. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and quite a prominent man in his community, and his death, in 1848, was considered a loss to the township. His widow was re-married about ten years afterwards, becoming the wife of Thomas W. Douglas, and is still living in Catlin Township at an advanced age. She holds to the Presbyterian faith, and is a sincere Christian.

Of the ten children that blessed the union of Stanley Olmstead and wife, our subject was the second in order of birth. He was born in the vicinity of Jamestown, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., Oct. 14, 1831. He was a lad of about eight years when he accompanied his parents and grandparents to this county, and the remaining years of his boyhood and his youth were passed in Danville and Catlin townships. His education was obtained in the old log schoolhouse of those early days. He early began life for himself, as he was but seventeen years of age when his father died, and the main charge of the family devolved upon him, he renting land and working at farming to support those dependent upon him. When he was twenty-four years old he married and rented a farm in Catlin Township the ensuing seven years, the place belonging to Harry Sandusky. After that he bought a small place in Catlin Village, and continued renting land for three years. The second year after the purchase of the County Farm in 1867, he was appointed Superintendent of it, and he was found to be the right man in the right place, faithfully and conscientiously discharging the duties of that onerous position, by his skillful farming improving the land, and treating the poor people under his charge with firmness and kindness. He retained that office eight years, and then tendered his resignation, as he desired to invest some of his money in land and go to farming on his own account. Soon after he took possession of the land he now owns and operates, it having been the homestead of the parents of Mrs. Olmstead, of which she inherited a portion. The balance was purchased by Mr. Olmstead. His present farm consists of 180 acres of land, exceedingly rich and productive, and he has been constantly making improvements till the place is considered one of the best in the neighborhood. He has erected a good set of farm buildings and a pleasant residence, finely located somewhat back from the highway.

This homestead formerly belonged to Mrs. Olmstead's parents, Thomas N. and Mary Brown (Sandusky) Wright, early pioneers of Vermilion County, and here she was born and bred, and on this spot, under an apple tree in the yard, her marriage with our subject was solemnized July 22, 1855, and here her life has thus far been spent happily and serenely. She has never been very far from this home of her birth, and has never ridden in the cars, or been beyond the limits of the county. Mrs. Olmstead is a notable housekeeper, and is well versed in the art of making those about her comfortable, and every one who crosses her threshold is sure of a cheerful welcome. Her parents were born in Bourbon County, Ky., and when the father was nineteen years old and the mother twenty, they came to Vermilion County, and were united in marriage six weeks later, in the year 1831, near Indianola, and immediately settled on the farm now owned by Mr. Olmstead. Mr. Wright built a log cabin, and in that humble abode they began their wedded life. May 31, 1851, Mrs. Wright died, leaving five children, of whom Elizabeth Ann, Mrs. Olmstead, was the eldest. The father was afterwards married to Nancy Dougherty, and

he died Nov. 18, 1872, on the homestead that he had eliminated from the wild prairies. Mrs. Olmstead was born Sept. 22, 1832. In this home of her girlhood and womanhood five children have blessed her wedded life with our subject, namely: Mary B., the wife of John H. Palmer; Charles, who married Agnes Emmett, who died Nov. 17, 1887; William C., who married Miss Eva Beck; George E.; and Albert C.

Mr. Olmstead has been a valuable citizen of this section of Vermilion County since attaining manhood, as he is a man of good personal habits, is just and honest in his dealings, wise and safe in counsel, and has always exerted his influence to advance the interests of his community morally, socially and educationally. He has taken an active part in the public life of this township, has held the office of Supervisor two terms, and for eleven years was School Trustee. He is a valued member of Catlin Lodge, No. 285, A. F. & A. M. He has been Master of the lodge. In politics he sides with the Democrats, and is a strong supporter of party principles. Both he and his wife are faithful members of the Presbyterian Church, and the acts of their daily lives show them to be consistent Christians.

A fine lithographic view of the handsome home and surroundings of Mr. Olmstead is shown elsewhere in this volume.

WILLIAM CESSNA, Sr., who is well known throughout Vance Township as one of its most prosperous men financially, is now approaching the sixty-seventh year of his age, having been born Nov. 7, 1822. He is a native of Bedford County, Pa., where his father, Evan Cessna, was also born. The latter, when approaching manhood, learned the trade of a blacksmith. Later he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and became owner of a good farm. He married Miss Mary Motelena Fenstermaker, also a native of the Keystone State, and whose ancestors were from Germany.

The parents of our subject continued residents of Pennsylvania for several years after their marriage. The father carried on blacksmithing and farming combined, and operated with fair success. He finally decided upon a change of residence, and in 1842 set out for Ohio with his family, settling in the Western Reserve in what was then Trumbull but was afterward changed to Mahoning County. There the parents spent the remainder of their lives. The household circle originally comprised nine children, eight of whom grew to mature years, and six of whom are now living. William was the third child of the family, and like his brothers and sisters, acquired a limited education by attendance in a log school-house, under a system of instruction in keeping with that time and place. Upon approaching manhood he learned the trade of a tanner, also that of a brick and stone mason. Since a boy of twelve he has been mainly dependent upon his own resources, and assisted his father considerably until his marriage. Evan Cessna was very nearly blind for many years, having a cataract over each eye, and losing the sight of one entirely.

The 18th of May, 1850, marked an interesting epoch in the life of our subject, as on that day he was wedded to Miss Sarah Jane, daughter of Richard Hawkins, a farmer and mechanic of Stark County, Ohio. The young couple commenced the journey of life together in a manner corresponding to their means and surroundings, and Mr. Cessna for several years thereafter followed his trade in Mahoning County. Finally he removed to Stark County, sojourning there probably two years, and then, in 1856, changed his residence to Marshall County, Ind. In the latter place also he followed his trade, and purchased 300 acres of land, the cultivation and improvement of which he carried on until 1868.

During the above mentioned year Mr. Cessna moved into Champaign County, Ill., and about twelve months later purchased the farm upon which his son William now lives, in Vermilion County. Later he added forty acres to it, then traded forty acres for that which he now occupies. Upon this he has lived for a period of thirteen years, and effected very many improvements, planting a 10-acre orchard, putting the fences in repair, and add-

ing the necessary buildings. He has invested his surplus capital in additional land, and is now the owner of 500 broad acres. His possessions are the result of his own industry and perseverance, and he has delved from the soil an ample competence for his declining years.

Mrs. Sarah Jane (Hawkins) Cessna departed this life Sept. 15, 1864, at the early age of thirty-three years, four months and eleven days. Of her union with our subject there were born five children, four of whom are living: John W. married Miss Myra Nichols, who is now deceased; he is the father of five children, and lives in Mineral Point, Kan.; Sarah Amelia is the wife of Wallace A. Yazel; they live four miles northwest of Homer, and have five children; Martha Ellen married Marion Tibbetts, and is the mother of four children; they live four and one-half miles southwest of Fairmount; William L. D. married Miss Sally O'Shea; they have one child, and live one mile west of Mr. Cessna.

Our subject contracted a second marriage Jan. 29, 1865, with Mrs. Lucina Melser, who was the mother of two children by her first husband. The result of this union was three children—Rosa I., Charles M. and Mary M., who are all living at home with their parents. Mr. Cessna has always taken a lively interest in politics, and keeps himself fully posted upon all matters of national interest. He is one of the warmest supporters of the Republican party, believing it the party of progress and reform, and the party upon which the prosperity of America depends. In Indiana he served as Pathmaster three years, and in the district where he now lives has been a School Director nine years. Formerly he belonged to the I. O. O. F.

Mr. Cessna, with wise forethought and care has furnished us with a portion of the family record, which we append as follows: Mrs. Sarah J. (Hawkins) Cessna was born in Washington County, Pa., May 4, 1811. John W., her eldest son, was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, Sept. 7, 1851. Artlissa A., the eldest daughter, was born Feb. 19, 1854, and died in Ohio. Sarah A. was born in Stark County, Ohio, Feb. 11, 1856. Martha Ellen was born in Marshall, Ind., April 24, 1858. William L. D. was born in Marshall County, Ind., Oct. 23, 1861. Rossa Hora was born in Marshall County, Ind., May 28, 1866; Charles M. was born in Champaign County, Ill., Jan. 20, 1869. Mary Matilda was born in Vermilion County, Ill., Oct. 27, 1872. Evan Cessna, the father of our subject, died July 29, 1861, at the age of sixty-eight years. His wife, Mary Motelena, died Jan. 20, 1876, at the age of seventy-six years.

SAMUEL STARK, of Sidell, is numbered among its most useful and praiseworthy citizens, and performed no small part in the early settlement of the place with whose growth and development he has ever maintained a warm interest. In 1885 he purchased the Cleveland Hotel and from a small beginning built up a good patronage and became popular among traveling men generally. In connection with this he operated excavating machines such as the Mould Ditcher, the Plow Ditcher and Road Grader, and graded several miles of road in Vance, Sidell and Carroll townships, making an excellent thoroughfare which is greatly appreciated by those most nearly concerned.

The parents of Mr. Stark were John and Mary (Cassady) Stark, who were of Kentucky birth and parentage and came to this county during its early settlement, locating on its southern line. Their family comprised fourteen children, eleven sons and three daughters. Samuel was born in Indiana and was reared to farming pursuits. He received a limited education in the primitive schools and developed into a strong and healthful man, sound in mind and body and well fitted for the position which he was called upon to fill as a leading member of his community. He was married in August, 1875, to Miss Christina Rawlings, and the young people commenced their wedded life together on the Amos Jackson farm. Later Mr. Stark was connected with several farms as general overseer, among them being the well-known Allerton farm, formerly the property of John Sidell. In 1881 they took up their abode in Danville, Mr. Stark having purchased the furniture in the Mc-

Cormick House of that city. Eight months later they again removed to a farm at Garrett Grove, where they remained four years. Their subsequent movements we have already indicated. On moving to Sidell Mrs. Stark assumed charge of the Cleveland House, which she has since conducted with marked success and has become very popular with the traveling public. She seems admirably adapted to her responsible position and possesses a great deal of tact, generosity and kindness, having the faculty of making welcome all who come within her doors. She is a lady of more than ordinary business abilities, and is increasing her patronage perceptibly each year.

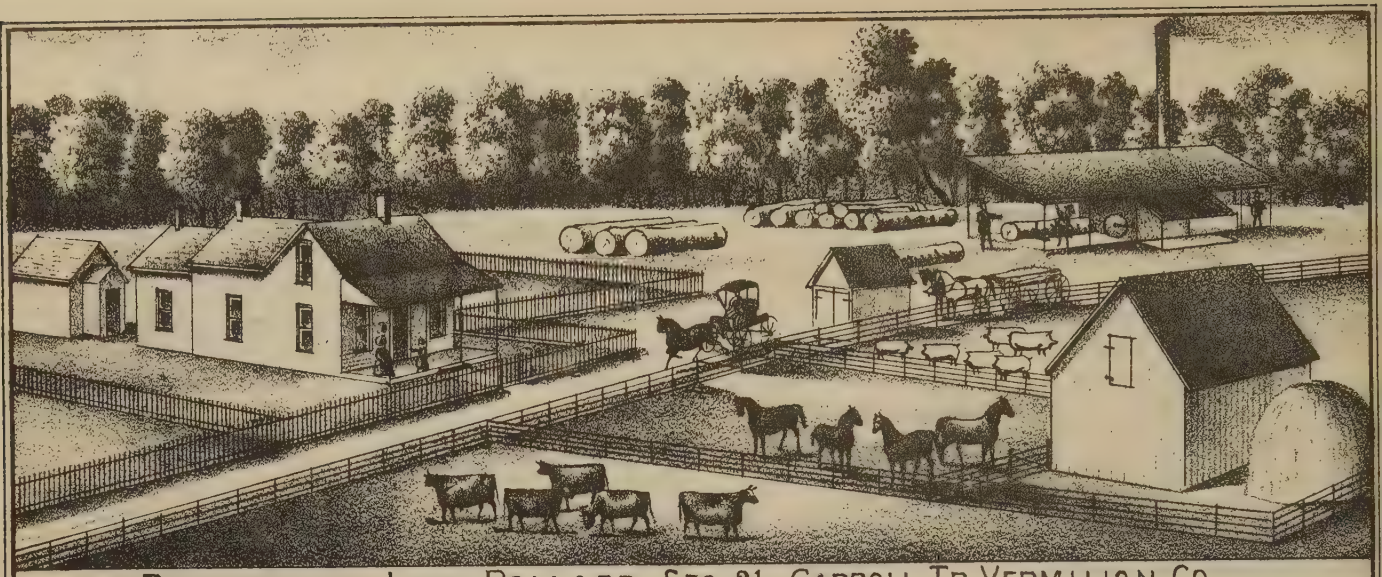
A native of Lee County, Va., Mrs. Stark was born Jan. 19, 1855, and is the daughter of Sampson B. Rawlins, also a native of the Old Dominion and who married Miss Elizabeth Sanford, of his own State. Both were of English descent. They were married in Virginia, whence they removed to Clay County, Ky., about 1860. The father prosecuted farming for three years, but in 1863 again changed his residence, settling this time near Paris, Edgar County, this State. Ten years later they came to this county and located on a farm in Sidell Township. Finally selling this also, they removed to Fairmount and conducted the Hall House one year. Afterward Mr. Rawlings engaged in the boot and shoe business of that place about a year. He removed to Sidell in 1885 and in 1887 established a store of general merchandise at Archie. After a time he was burned out, suffering a loss of $8,000. He is now employed as a traveling salesman for a grocery house in Chicago.

The mother of Mrs. Stark departed this life March 19, 1888, at the age of fifty-six years eight months and twenty-eight days. Her family consisted of nine children, the eldest of whom, Nancy, is the wife of J. P. Jackson, a farmer of Sidell Township, and is the mother of two children; Christina, Mrs. Stark, was the second child of the family; James W. H. H., married Miss Ida Patterson and operates as a carpenter and builder in Sidell; he is the father of one child. Zarilda married George B. Baum, of Sidell, who operates as a farmer and liveryman, and they have two children; Bertha is the wife of Austin Jones, a business man of Mt. Carmel, and they have one child; Sarah J is at home with her father; John F. is farming in Sidell Township; Dora is a saleslady at Cerro Gordo, Ill.; Fanny M. lives with her father and sister.

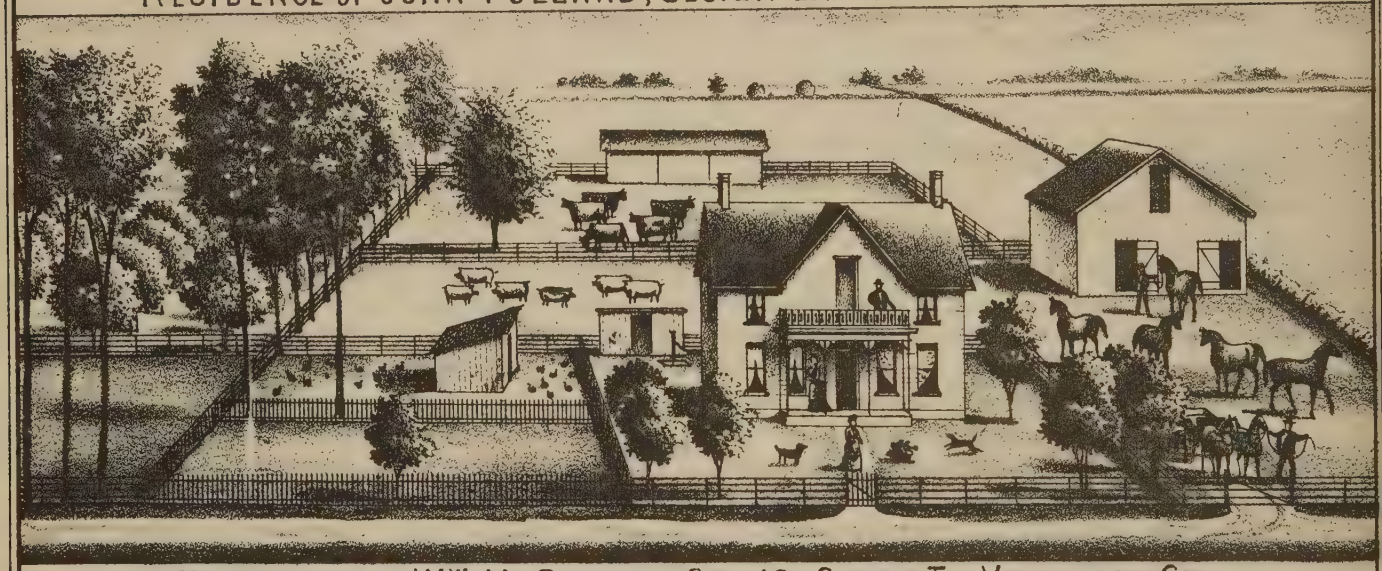
Mrs. Stark thus in her youth lived in three different States, Kentucky, Virginia and Illinois. She attended the common school and at an early age evinced an aptitude for business details. At the age of twenty years she was married to Mr. Stark. She has contributed her full quota to the rapid and thrifty growth of the village of Sidell, in the excellent management of her house and in attracting to it a class of well-to-do and intelligent people.

A large force of builders is now (June, 1889) actively engaged in enlarging the Cleveland House, which when completed a month hence, will accommodate a large number of guests and prove an ornament to the village. Mrs. Stark patronizes the worthy enterprises established in the village, among them the Methodist Episcopal Church, in whose erection she took a warm interest. She is a lover of music and all those things which contribute to the comfort and satisfaction of the people who may sojourn under her roof. She is a lady of decided views and sympathizes with the Democratic party. The Ladies' Aid Society finds in her one of its efficient members. To her and her husband have been born four children: Callie, who died in infancy; Mary Alice; an infant who died unnamed; and Forest E.

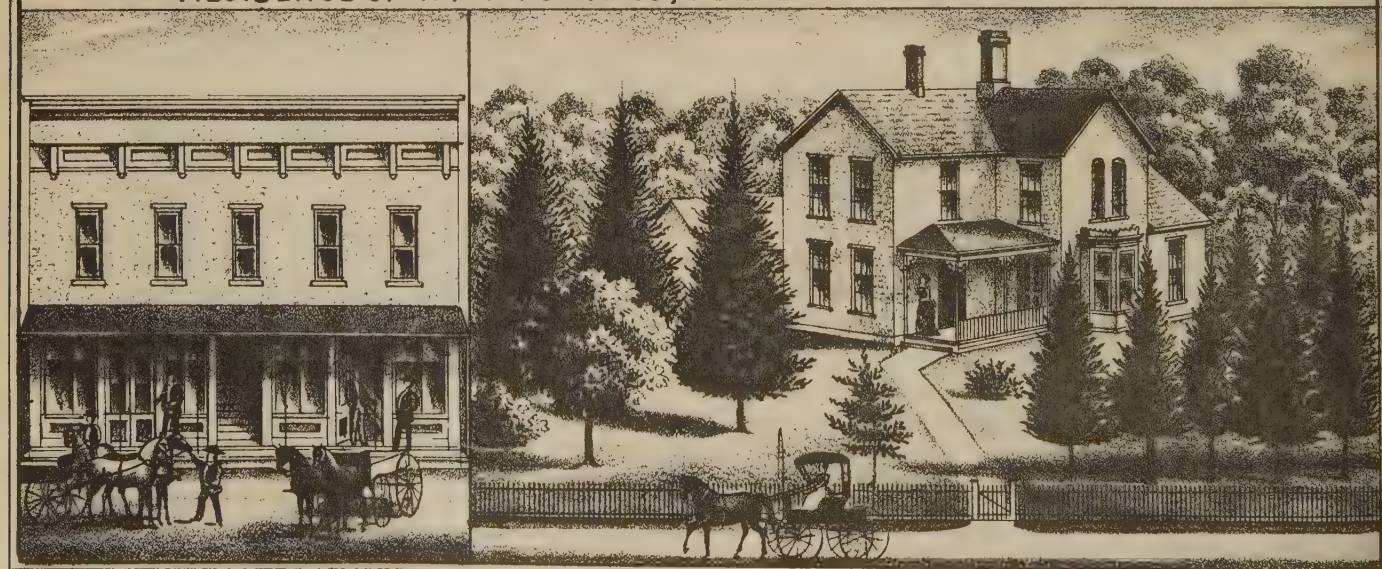
BENJAMIN ZEIGLER. This gentleman is the oldest settler in the eastern half of Grant Township, in this county, having lived there more years than any other person now residing within its borders. He was born in Cumberland County, Pa., March 5, 1830, and when twenty years old came to Fountain County, Ind., with his elder brother, John, making the journey the entire distance in a two-seated wagon drawn by one horse. They came from Carlisle, in their native county, to Indianapolis, Ind., over the road then known as the National Pike, and thence to



RESIDENCE OF JOHN POLLARD, SEC. 21. CARROLL TP. VERMILION CO.



RESIDENCE OF Wm H. SCONCE, SEC. 16. SIDELL TP. VERMILION CO.



STORE AND RESIDENCE OF MICHAEL FISHER, INDIANOLA, VERMILION CO.

their stopping place, now named Reitersburgh, then known as Chambersburg. The trip occupied two weeks and four days, but it can now be made between those two points in sixteen hours! John Zeigler had spent the previous year in Indiana, and our subject made the journey West with him simply as an adventure. But he liked the looks of the country, and determined to stay, especially as he found he could get twice as much for his labor there as he could in the East. Accordingly he located in Fountain County and began working out by the month. He made his home there until 1856, when having by this time secured a life partner, he came to Vermilion County and for two years worked for his father-in-law. Having saved a little money he had in 1852 bought 320 acres of Government land on section 15 in Grant Township, and it is on this place his home now stands. He was too poor, however, to build on it or cultivate it, and he let it lie idle until 1858, when he managed to get a house built on it, but was yet unable to get it "broke," and therefore for the following two years he farmed what is known as the "Ann Brown" place, of 160 acres, one and one-half miles east of his house. In this way he accumulated some small means, and the following year he broke forty acres of his own land with a team of four yoke of cattle and a twenty-four inch plow.

His industry and energy soon made themselves felt, and each successive year saw Mr. Zeigler a little better off. Gradually more and more land was brought under cultivation, fences and hedges were made and planted, farm buildings were erected, and after the lapse of years more land was bought, and to-day our subject owns an excellent farm of 540 acres in one body, well fenced, drained, cultivated and with good and sufficient buildings, and as he looks around over his broad acres he can reflect with satisfaction upon the fact that this is all the work of his own hands. When he first bought this land it was all bare open prairie, not a tree or shrub was on the ground. Now it presents to the eye a typical American western scene. The house stands back some distance from the road and is approached from the front through an avenue lined on either side with well grown maple trees; the buildings are all that are needed, for the large farm, the growing crops and the contented cattle grazing in the enclosed fields, all bespeak thrift and competence. All this is the work of Mr. Zeigler's own hands. The fine grove of maples which surrounds his house was raised by himself from seed and covers nine acres, and an apple orchard of four acres, also of his own planting. The country when he first came here was wild and unsettled, and his nearest neighbor for some time was two miles away, and from the rising ground near his house, as far as the eye could see, there were less than a dozen houses. Prairie wolves were numerous, compelling the settler to house his stock at night, wild game was plentiful, and deer, ducks, geese and prairie chickens were in such abundance that dogs were kept and trained to keep them from the farmer's grain fields, and the pioneer's table was well supplied with delicacies, the fruit of his gun. But one road was then laid out hereabouts, the settlers making their way across the prairies by following tracks made by others who had gone before. Not a fence was up, and to leave the beaten path was to run the risk of being lost on the prairie. Trading was done mostly at Attica, Ind., thirty miles away, the trip to store and back consuming two days. Mr. Zeigler says it was his custom when returning, if overtaken by darkness, to tie his lines and let his horses take their own way, they never failing to bring him safely home when human eyesight was of no avail in finding the road.

Now how different the scene. Public highways are laid out in all directions. The country about is thickly settled, and half a mile from Mr. Zeigler's door is the village of Cheneysville, a station on the Lake Erie and Western Railroad. Around his home is a thickly settled and prosperous community, with evidence on every hand of comfort, schools and churches are easy of access, and all the appliances of civilization are at the farmer's door. This change has been brought about by the toils and sacrifices of such men as our subject, and to such all honor is due.

Mr. Zeigler was united in marriage, in Fountain County, Ind., Jan. 3, 1854, with Miss Verlina Brown, daughter of John and Catherine Brown, early settlers in that part of Indiana. The former

was born in Perry County, Pa., and the latter in Dauphin County in the same state. After marriage they emigrated to Indiana, where Mr. Brown improved a large number of farms, certainly as many as twenty, selling as soon as he could get advance on his property. In this way he made considerable money and during the latter years was quite well-to-do. He died in Hoopeston in the winter of 1884-85. His wife had passed away some years previously at Otterbein, Benton County, Ind. Mrs. Zeigler was born in Fountain County, Ind., March 27, 1834. By this marriage nine children were born, all except one, who died in childhood, being now living: Cyrus A., the eldest, farms a portion of the homestead half a mile east of his father's house, and is married to Miss Cyrenia Leverton, and they have one child and one is deceased; Peter M. is married to Susan Labaw, has one child, and lives two miles east of his birthplace on a farm belonging to his aunt, Catherine A. Brown; John B. is married to Josephine Stufflebeam, and lives on a rented farm in the northeastern corner of Grant Township; George B. is married to Mary Ann Labaw, and has two children and lives on a part of his father's farm; Benjamin Franklin, Mary Amanda, Rachael Mahala and William J. are unmarried and are yet under the parental roof.

Mr. Zeigler has witnessed and participated in the growth and increasing prosperity of this part of Vermilion County. When he came within its borders, growth had hardly been begun in this part of the county. The site of the flourishing city of Hoopeston was a barren prairie which he could have bought from the Government at $1.25 per acre, but he thought it dear at that, when prospecting for a site, as the land was low and wet, and therefore bought where he is, where the land lies higher. On such small things does fortune sometimes hinge. Yet he has no reason to complain. Starting from an humble station and from small beginnings he has achieved a competence, and what is still better, has gained the universal respect, esteem and confidence of the community, a just tribute to the moral and upright life of the man and to his entire trustworthiness of character. For many years he has been compelled by his fellow-townsmen to accept office at their hands, having been School Director, Town Trustee, Road Overseer, etc., and he is now Assistant Supervisor, and among the worthy citizens of Vermilion County none stands higher in the estimation of those who know him than does Benjamin Zeigler, the pioneer.

WILLIAM THOMAS SANDUSKY has for more than twenty years been prominently identified with the leading farmers and stock growers of Vermilion County, a shrewd, intelligent set of men, and in that time he has been an important factor in extending its great agricultural interests. He has a farm on section 36, Catlin Township, of some over 400 acres, which is well cultivated, and on which he has erected a substantial, roomy set of buildings, and has all the needful machinery and appliances for carrying on agriculture with facility and to the best advantage.

Our subject, although a Kentuckian by birth, was reared in Illinois, and has passed the most of his life here, his parents having been among the earliest settlers of Shelby County. His father, William Sandusky, was a native of Kentucky, while his mother, Julia (Earp) Sandusky, was born in Virginia. They were married in Kentucky, and there commenced their wedded life, but in 1829, when our subject was a small infant, they emigrated to Illinois and settled in Shelby County. In the following spring Mr. Sandusky's earthly career was cut short, while he was yet in life's prime, by his premature death. The wife survived him ten years, when, in 1840, she too passed away.

Of a family of three children, our subject was the second child and the only son. He was born in Bourbon County, Ky., March 11, 1829, and was consequently but a few months old when his parents brought him to this State. He was bred to a farmer's life in Shelby County, and, amid the pioneer influences that surrounded his early life, became strong, manly, self-reliant and energetic. In the spring of 1848 he left the place where his life had been mostly passed hitherto and came to Ver-

milion County, having in his charge a drove of cattle, which he herded here till the fall of the year, when he proceeded with them toward New York. He only went as far as Sandusky, however, when he disposed of his cattle at a good price. He then returned to Vermilion County, and for some years after that was engaged in farm work and in in tending cattle. In the spring of 1853, ambitious to accumulate money faster than he was doing, he determined that he would seek the gold mines of California, and going there by the way of the Isthmus of Panama, he pursued mining on the Pacific Coast with fair success till the fall of 1855. Tiring of the rough life of the camps, he turned his face homeward, and, coming to Vermilion County once more, was soon actively engaged in the business of buying stock, continuing that till the spring of 1859. At that time he turned his attention to the hotel business, having gone to Greencastle, Putnam Co., Ind., in June, and building a hotel known as the Junction House. He was profitably engaged in its management till the spring of 1866, when he sold out, returned to Vermilion County and bought the farm where he now lives, having decided to turn his attention once more to the calling to which he had been reared, and for which he has a natural aptitude. He now gives his attention wholly to agricultural pursuits, and for several years, besides managing his farm, was extensively engaged in buying and shipping stock, and still continues to raise a goodly number of cattle and hogs.

November 30, 1859, was an important date in the life of Mr. Sandusky as it was the occasion of his marriage with Miss Emily A. Clements, who has been to him all that an intelligent, refined, capable woman can be to the man by whose side she walks the journey of life, making his home pleasant and attractive, and a welcome retreat from the cares of business. She is a wise and tender mother to their children, of whom they had four, as follows: Ada, who died in infancy; Charlie, who died at the age of five months; Maggie and Kate, who are left to brighten the household by their presence. Mrs. Sandusky was born in Shelbyville, Ill., May 28, 1839, a daughter of John and Emily (Livers) Clements, natives of Maryland. Her parents were among the early settlers of Shelby County, and there the father died. The mother is living in Shelby County, Ill.

Mr. Sandusky is a man of much experience, gifted with firmness, sagacity, and foresight to a marked degree, which traits have no doubt been instrumental in gaining him a position among the first citizens of Catlin Township as a substantial, well-to-do farmer. He is very liberal, and never hesitates to spend his money where it will do good or relieve suffering. He has a mind of his own, and is very tenacious in his opinions. This is especially true in regard to his political views, he being a very strong Republican, active in political affairs, and giving material support to his party. He has not mingled much in public life, having devoted himself strictly to his own private affairs, but he has been School Director for a long term of years, interesting himself greatly in educational matters.

CHARLES HILLMAN. There are few more industrious or more conscientious and worthy men in Oakwood Township than the subject of this notice, who is located upon a well-improved farm upon section 24. His property is the result of his own unaided industry and has been accumulated by years of arduous labor and close economy. Modest and retiring in disposition he is a man making very little show in the world, but one whom his friends recognize as possessed of high principle and sound common sense, and one whose word is considered as good as his bond. A patriot during the late Civil War, he contributed his quota in assisting to preserve the Union and it is hardly necessary to say, uniformly votes the straight Republican ticket. He has ever been the advocate of temperance, practically and theoretically and with his estimable wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has officiated as Steward and Class-Leader and held other positions of trust and responsibility.

The offspring of a good family, our subject is the son of Edward Hillman, a native of Eng-

land and a tailor by trade which he followed for some time in London, Province of Ontario, Canada, to which he emigrated when a young man. His mother, who was of Scotch descent, died when a young woman, and when her son Charles was scarcely more than nine years old. Charles and his eldest sister were afterward taken to the home of Mr. John Bateman, of Ontario, with whom he lived until coming to Illinois in October, 1857, when a youth of seventeen years.

To the parents of our subject there were born four children, Charles being the eldest. He first opened his eyes to the light March 8, 1840 and received very few opportunities for an education. He attended school for a time after coming to this State but had his own living to make and was mostly employed on a farm. He saved what he could of his earnings as years passed on, and at the age of twenty-seven was owner of eighty acres of land in Oakwood Township, and some personal property.

Upon the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Hillman that same year enlisted in Company I, 35th Illinois Infantry, and served with his regiment in the battles of Stone River, Perryville and Chickamauga. At the latter he was wounded, Sept. 19, 1863, being shot through the left thigh in a peculiar and dangerous manner. His recovery was long and tedious, he lying in the hospital until September, 1864, at which time expired his term of enlistment and he received his honorable discharge. Upon his recovery he again entered the ranks, Feb. 1, 1865, as a member of Company K, 150th Illinois Infantry. He served with his regiment in Georgia and Tennessee some months after the close of the war, receiving his second and final discharge, Feb. 1, 1866, and now draws a pension from the Government. He went into the service as a private and on account of fidelity to duty and bravery in times of danger, was first promoted to Sergeant and afterward to Second Lieutenant, with which rank he was mustered out.

The 8th of October, 1867, witnessed the marriage of our subject with Miss Sarah A. Hilliary and the newly wedded pair settled at once upon the farm which they now own and occupy. This embraces 202½ acres of land all in one body, 132½ acres under cultivation and embracing property formerly owned by Martin Oakwood. The four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hillman are named respectively Edward J., Bertha, George F. and Mary E. They are all at home with their parents, are well educated and form a most intelligent and interesting group. Mr. Hillman has officiated as School Director in his district for a period of twelve years, and has been Commissioner of Highways three years. Stock-raising forms a leading feature of his farming operations, an industry which is very profitable in Central Illinois. As an ex-soldier our subject is identified with George Morrison Post, G. A. R., at Glenburn.

Mrs. Hillman was born March 15, 1849, in Vermilion County, Ill., and is the daughter of George Hilliary, one of the pioneer settlers of this county and who died about 1876. His widow is still living being now seventy-five years old and making her home in Oakwood.

CLINTON D. HENTON, M. D., a popular physician of Vermilion County, was born in Fountain County, Ind., on the 3d day of August, 1831. His father, Evan Henton, it is believed, was a native of Virginia. He was married in Ohio and in an early day moved to Indiana and settled in Fountain County, where he purchased a tract of land four miles from Attica. He resided here until 1838, when he sold his farm and returned to Ohio and settled in Highland County, where he purchased a farm one and a half miles from Hillsboro, and there resided until his death, which occurred in 1856. His wife's maiden name was Maria Inskeep, a native of Ohio and daughter of the Rev. Daniel Inskeep. She died on the home farm in 1876. She was the mother of seven children, six of whom grew to manhood and womanhood and whose names follow: Eliza, Clinton, Rachael, Colman, Samuel and Mary.

Dr. Henton was a lad of six years when his parents removed to Ohio, where he received his early education in the public schools. He also attended Hillsboro Academy. At the age of six-

teen, he commenced teaching and taught and attended school alternately. In the meantime he became anxious to study medicine, and pursued his studies in this direction all through the time covered by teaching school. In July, 1853 he came to Vermilion County and inaugarated a successful practice of his profession, but being anxious to further post himself he went from Myersville, where he lived, to Chicago, where he attended Rush Medical College, graduating therefrom in 1861. He returned to Myersville and practiced until May, 1872, when he came to Danville, where he has been a successful practitioner since. In 1855 he married Susan Gundy, who is a native of Ross Township, this county, and a daughter of Joseph Gundy, (a sketch of whose life appears in another part of this volume.)

Dr. Henton is a member of Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, A. F. & A. M., and also of Vermilion Chapter No. 82, R. A. M. The Doctor and wife are communicants of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Professionally Dr. Henton has been very successful, and as a citizen, his reputation is one of the highest. He keeps well read up on current events, and is what the world calls a well-posted man.

BIRD C. PATE is numbered among the worthy citizens of Vermilion County who, natives of its soil, have for many years been active in developing and extending its great agricultural interests, and while so doing have placed themselves in independent and prosperous circumstances. He was born and reared in Catlin Township, and since attaining man's estate has been a practical member of its farming community, owning and busily engaged in the management of a good farm of 200 acres of fertile land on section 21.

Adam Pate, the father of our subject, was a native of Virginia. When he established himself in life he married Elizabeth Owens, a native of Kentucky. They commenced their wedded life in Dearborn County, Ind., but in 1829 they made their way through the rude and sparsely settled country to Vermilion County, and became early settlers in this vicinity, locating at first about three miles north-west of Catlin, and then removing to this farm, which is now in the possession of our subject. Here their remaining lives were spent in the toil necessary to improve a farm in the wilderness, and now that they have passed away, their memory will be cherished with that of other pioneers who labored and sacrificed that they might build up comfortable homes, and in so doing aided in building up this commonwealth of Illinois. The father died Feb. 24, 1867, aged seventy-four years, two months and five days. The mother died Oct. 8, 1874, aged eighty years, nine months and twenty-six days. They were the parents of fourteen children, of whom Bird was the thirteenth. He was born in Catlin Township, July 12, 1836, and grew to manhood amid the primitive surroundings of those early days of the settlement of the county, and on the homestead where he was reared he has spent his entire life thus far, and has devoted himself exclusively to farming.

To the lady who presides over his pleasant home and helps him to dispense its abundant hospitalities to whosoever comes under its sheltering roof, he was united in marriage in Vermilion County, Dec. 21, 1857. Her maiden name was Rebecca Tanner, and she was born in this county, July 30, 1839 to William and Lucinda (McKinsey) Tanner, early settlers of the county. Six children have blessed the marriage of our subject and his wife, of whom five are living—Lafayette P. married Rebecca Jones, and is engaged in the coal business north of Catlin; Horace M. is unmarried and resides in Garvanza, Cal.; Asa married Jennie Alexander, and is engaged in farming in this township; Clay and Clara O., the two latter reside at home with their parents. Their eldest child, George W., died when about four years old, and thus early taken from this weary world, he is "safe from all that can harm, safe, and quietly sleeping."

Mr. and Mrs. Pate are very pleasant people, kindly and generous in their dealings with their neighbors, by whom they are much liked. Mr. Pate has been Road Commissioner and School Director, holding the latter office twenty-one years, and in both capacities has served the public effici-

ently. He is a sound Republican and earnestly supports the principles promulgated by his party. He is a man of correct moral habits, and though a member of no religious society yet takes an active part in the affairs of the church and does what he can for its welfare. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Catlin Lodge, No. 285.

A fine lithographic view of the homestead and surroundings on the farm of Mr. Pate is shown elsewhere in this work.

JUDGE OLIVER LOWNDES DAVIS. It is seemingly natural, at least it is easier, for mankind to wander into crooked paths than to follow the straight road of rectitude and honor; but he who fortunately confines himself to the latter, must have some realization of the homely and ancient adage that "virtue brings its own reward." Men do not realize the truth of this so much as in life's decline, when the shadows of the great change which is soon to come are already visible; then fortunate is he who may humbly feel that his life labors have not wholly been in vain. These thoughts involuntarily arise in contemplating the career of Judge Davis, which has been perhaps, like that of a deep stream, little disturbed at the surface, but with an under-current whose strength has been clear and decided. A native of New York City, he was born Dec. 20, 1819, and is the son of William and Olivia (Thompson) Davis, who were natives respectively, of Saratoga, N. Y., and Connecticut. After their removal to the metropolis the father was for many years engaged with varying success as a shipping merchant.

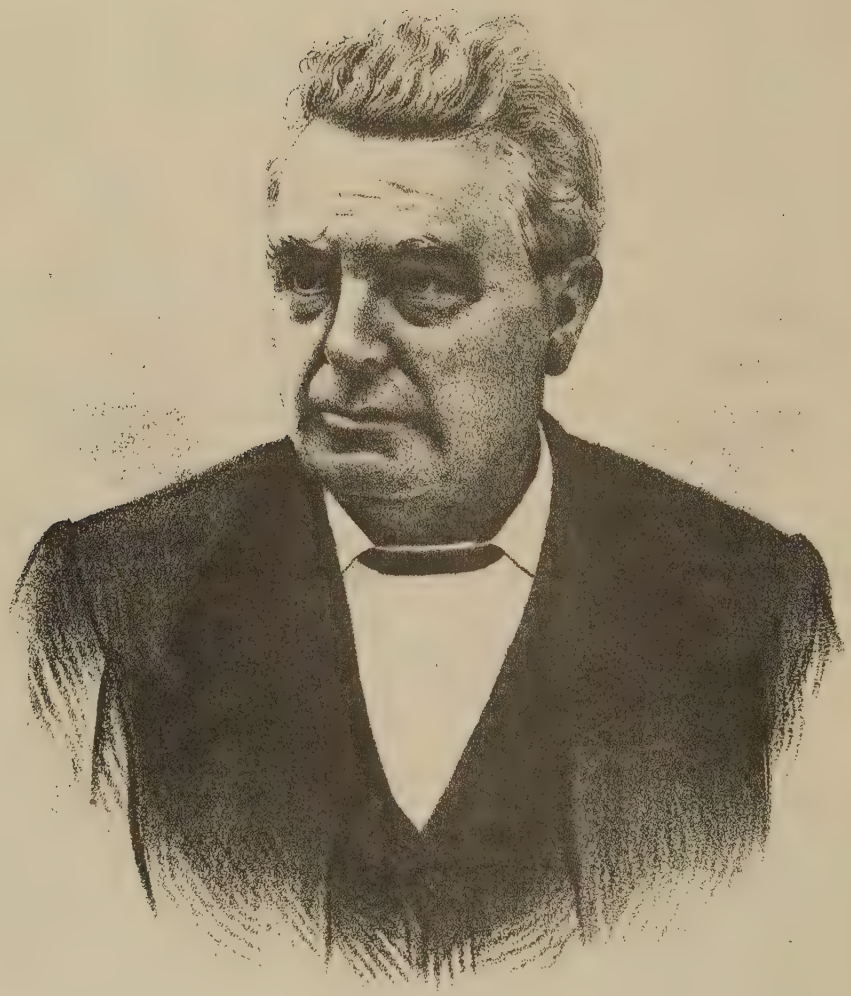
The subject of this sketch pursued his first studies in a select school in his native city, afterward entered Hamilton Academy, and later was a student at the academy in Canandaigua, N. Y. After laying aside his books he entered the service of the American Fur Company, which was founded by John Jacob Astor and which was at that time under the presidency of Ramsey Crookes. He continued with this company until 1841, and then, having determined to make his home in the West, came to this county and settled in Danville, where he now lives.

Early in life Judge Davis had looked forward to the time when he could enter the legal profession and now in keeping with his long cherished desire, he placed himself under the tuition of Isaac P. Walker and began the study of law. By close application and untiring diligence he made rapid progress in his studies and on the 15th day of December, 1842, was admitted to the bar. Soon afterward opening an office on his own account, he began the practice of his profession, but continued his studies and in due time established himself as a reliable practitioner and was regarded as an able advocate who signalized himself as exceptionally honorable and high-minded.

In 1861 upon the formation of the Twenty-seventh Circuit Court, Mr. Davis was elected Judge and was appointed by Judge Treat as United States Commissioner. On the 1st of July, following, he was re-elected to the former office, which he held until July 10, 1866, when, owing to the meagreness of the salary he resigned and resumed the practice of his profession, which he continued with marked success until 1873. He was then elected Judge of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit which office he held until 1879, and in that year he was elected and commissioned Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit.

In the meantime, on the 25th of September, 1877, our subject was appointed by the Supreme Court as one of the Judges of the Appellate Court —an office to which he was twice subsequently reappointed and in which he served with great wisdom and discretion for twelve years and at the end of the second appointment retired from the bench. He is particularly distinguished for his legal acumen and honesty, together with great purity of motive, while his equitable rulings and gentlemanly bearing have secured him the high esteem of all with whom he has had dealings. As a lawyer, he has honored his profession, while as a Judge, he holds the unqualified respect of both bench and bar.

In politics, Judge Davis, was originally a Democrat, but upon the organization of the Republican party he became identified with that body. He



O. L. Davis

was elected to the Legislature, first in 1851, and again in 1857. Aside from this he has declined political preferment, finding more satisfactory occupation in the practice of his chosen profession. In his religious views, he is a Presbyterian, having united with that church in 1870.

Judge Davis was married Dec. 5, 1844, to Miss Sarah M. Cunningham, a daughter of Hezekiah and Mary (Alexander) Cunningham, who were natives respectively of Virginia and Georgia. In the lat ter State were many members of the Alexander family who rose to eminence, and were particularly gifted with the traits of an illustrious ancestry. Mrs. Davis is a native of this county and was born Sept. 3, 1827. To the Judge and his accomplished wife there were born ten children, six of whom are living—Mary married Charles J. Palmer; Lucy, married J. B. Mann; Jennie, married S. M. Milliken; Nellie, Henry Harmon, and Fannie, E.

JAMES E. WHITE is industriously pursuing the calling of a farmer on section 10, Catlin Township, where he owns a good farm whose well-tilled acres yield him an income that enables him to support his family in comfort. He was born in Perrysville, Ind., Sept. 4, 1851, a son of James and Frances Ann (Sanders) White. The former was twice married, his first wife being Hannah Rogers, the mother of William White, of whom a brief account is given on another page of this work.

Our subject is the oldest living son of his father and mother, and was a lad of eight years when his parents came to Vermilion County, this State, and here the remaining years of his boyhood and youth were spent, and when it became time for him to settle upon some calling by which to earn a living, he selected agriculture as the one for which he was the best fitted. He has been quite successful thus far and has already placed his 160-acre farm under excellent tillage and has made many good improvments.

June 3, 1874, was the date of one of the most important events that ever occurred in the life of Mr. White, our subject, as at that time he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Emily Eliza Browne, who is faithfully co-operating with him in his work. Seven children have come to brighten their home, as follows: Henry W., Eliza F., Mirriam R., Frederic J., Alice E., who was taken from the home circle Feb. 2, 1888; Jessie L., and Minnie E.

Mrs. White is a native of Catlin Township, and was born Dec. 23, 1852, to William and Eliza (Jones) Browne, natives of England. The latter was born Feb. 3, 1829, and became the wife of William Browne May 16, 1850, and with him settled in Catlin Township. On the 24th day of March, 1854, he was suddenly removed by an accidental death, from the sphere of his usefulness while yet in life's prime. On that day he was unloading hay from a wagon near the residence of the late Henry Jones, on the road between Catlin and Danville. He was on the ground at the rear of the load unloosening the pole that bound the hay, and the horses becoming frightened started to run away, and while he was trying to catch them he was struck by the hay ladder of the rack, across the heart, and in less than a half-hour was dead. He was the father of two children—Eliza and Emily E., (Mrs. White). Eliza died when about fifteen months old. The widow of William Browne, and mother of Mrs. White was afterward again married, this time being united with Frederic Tarrant, a native of England. Mr. Tarrant was born at Stanford in the Vale, County of Berks, old England, his birth occurring May 15, 1824. He left his native land in June, 1853, coming almost immediately to the great and growing West.

Mr. and Mrs. Tarrant became the parents of a large family of children, whose names are given below: Sarah Louisa, born Feb. 6, 1857, married Charles P. Williams, Sept. 1, 1875: Frederic Richard, born Jan. 1, 1859, and died May 17, 1859; Miriam Whitfield, born Feb. 10, 1860, and married Nov. 1, 1882, to Robert White; Ellen Elizabeth, born Dec. 18, 1861, and died May 7, 1862; Arthur Henry, born May 20, 1863, and married June 6, 1888, to Annie Estella Ludy; Jessie Bentley, born Dec 20, 1865, and married March 31, 1887, to Thomas J. Dale; Thomas Alfred, born

Feb. 11, 1868; Alice Bertha, June 21, 1870, and Elsie Kate, born Feb. 10, 1873, and died Dec. 14, 1874.

Mr. White is an honest, sober, hardworking man, and is regarded as a useful member in the community. He has served his township faithfully as School Director. He and his wife are people of religious views and habits, and belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. White is identified with the A. F. & A. M. as a member of the Catlin Lodge, No. 285. In politics, he is a follower of the Democratic party.

WILLIAM W. CURRENT occupies a prominent position among the progressive, enterprising citizens of Newell Township, his native place, of which he is Supervisor, and with whose agricultural interests he is closely identified. He is a veteran of the late war, in which he won an honorable record as a brave, faithful soldier, ready to do or die for his country.

The father of our subject, Henry B. Current, is a native of Virginia, while his mother, Martha Srout, was born in Ohio. [For parental history see sketch of Henry B. Current]. They had eight children, three sons and five daughters, and William of whom we write, was the eldest of the family. He was born in this township Nov. 27, 1842. He was reared to manhood in his native county, receiving common educational advantages in the public schools. When he was sixteen years old, an independent, self-reliant youth, he left the shelter of the parental roof to learn the trade of harness and saddlery making, serving an apprenticeship of two years. But after that he did not follow the trade, but engaged as a clerk in a dry goods and clothing house in Danville, and was there for three years. During that time he had been watching the progress of the great civil war that was then raging so fiercely, and he then determined to cast in his lot with the noble defenders of the stars and stripes and fight with them his country's battles. Accordingly in the prime and vigor of young manhood he enlisted in the spring of 1864 in Company K, 37th Illinois Infantry, under the command of Capt. J. C. Black, afterward Gen. Black. He did good service on Southern battlefields for about a year, but the hardships and privations of a soldier's life told on his naturally strong constitution, and after the war ended he was discharged on account of disability.

After his experience of military warfare Mr. Current returned to his native county and engaged as switchman in the Danville yards for the Wabash Railway. He acted in that capacity about a year and was then transferred to the freight office where he was employed some six or seven years. When the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railway was completed he was appointed conductor of a freight train running from Chicago to Danville. A year and a half afterwards he gave that up to accept a position in the Chicago office. After working there one winter he returned to Danville and in June took charge of the yard. A year and a half later he abandoned railroading, and then engaged in the grocery business in Danville about three years and then in farming. In the month of August, 1886 Mr. Current returned to Newell Township where his early life had been passed, and has since been engaged in farming here at the old homestead of his father, farming on shares.

Mr. Current has been twice married. He was first wedded in this county, in Catlin Township, to Miss Margaret Ellsworth, a native of the county. She bore him three children—Oscar E., Harry S., Ida M. July 10, 1878, the devoted wife and mother was called to a higher life, leaving many friends to sympathise with her afflicted household. Mr. Current was married to his present estimable wife in Newell Township, Feb. 15, 1880. She is, like himself, a native of this place, born June 8, 1858, her maiden name Mary A. Makemson. Her parents, Hiram and Prudence (Campbell) Makemson, are residents of this township.

Mr. Current is an ambitious, wide-awake man, skilled in his calling, and his ability and well-known integrity have been duly recognized by his fellow-citizens, who have twice called him to the responsible office that he now holds as Supervisor of Newell Township, electing him first in the spring of 1888, and re-electing him in the spring

Wilson Burroughs

of 1889. While living in Danville he was City Clerk for one year. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Olive Branch Lodge, No. 38, Vermilion Chapter at Danville and Athelstan Commandery, No. 45, at Danville. He is a man of sincere religious principles, and an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has been an officer, and he heartily cooperates with his fellow members in whatever will promote the best interests of the church and of society at large. Politically, he is a Democrat.

MAJOR WILSON BURROUGHS. Among the self-made men of Vermilion County none deserve greater credit than the subject of this notice who is in possession of a comfortable amount of this world's goods, obtained by downright hard labor and wise management. At the beginning, when he started out in life for himself, he made it a rule to live within his income, and this resolve closely followed has given him that independence than which, there is no more comfortable feeling in the world. In possession of a fine home and a splendid family, together with the respect of his fellow men, he surely has much to make life desirable. His occupation through life has been principally agriculture, but he is now retired from active labor and has wisely determined to spend his remaining years in the comfort and quiet which he so justly deserves.

The ancestors of the Major were Southern people mostly, and his father, Jesse Burroughs, a native of Kentucky, was born in 1803. Early in life he was married May 8, 1823, to Miss Mary C. Wilson who was born in 1804 in Pennsylvania, the wedding taking place in Deaborn County, Ind., to which place the young people had emigrated with their parents. They resided in that county for sixteen years, then coming to Illinois, in 1839, settled on a farm near Catlin, this county, where they lived a number of years, then changed their residence to Fairmount. The father died on the 5th of March, 1880, aged seventy-six years, ten months and sixteen days. The mother survived her partner less than a year, passing away Feb. 25, 1881, aged seventy-six years, three months and twenty-four days.

To the parents of our subject were born nine children, six sons and three daughters, five of whom are living, and of whom Wilson was the second child. He was born Nov. 21, 1825, in Dearborn County, Ind. His early education was conducted in a log school-house with greased paper for window panes and the other finishings and furnishings common to the buildings of that place and time. It was never his privilege to attend a higher school. He had the ordinary experience of a farmer's boy in a new country, assisting in the development of the farm, plowing, sowing and reaping, becoming inured to hard work at an early age. There were very few settlers in this region at the time of the arrival of the Burroughs family, there being a few Indians and French on the Sault fork of the Vermilion River.

Four days before attaining the nineteenth year of his age young Burroughs was married Nov. 17, 1844, to Miss Martha Ann Thompson, daughter of John and Esther (Paine) Thompson, who came to Illinois from Dearborn County, Ind., in 1830, and settled on a farm in Vance Township, this county. Their family included eight children, four of whom are living and of whom Mrs. Burroughs the second child, was born May 11, 1827, in Dearborn County, Ind. Her early education was conducted in a similar manner to that of her husband, and her father officiated as a pedagogue for several years. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Burroughs settled on a rented farm near Catlin, and like their neighbors frequently had difficulty to make both ends meet. There was an abundance of labor and with but very little return. They raised their own flax and wool, and Mrs. Burroughs spun and wove and fashioned the garments for her family. Mr. Burroughs often thinks of the time when he went to church dressed in home-made linen shirt and pants and a straw hat. He maintains, however, that those were happy days, during which mutual affection and mutual purposes enabled them to bear with courage the burdens of life and sustain their hopes for the future.

Our subject operated five years upon rented land to such good advantage that at the expiration of

this time he was enabled to purchase 100 acres—eighty acres of prairie at $5 per acre and twenty acres of timber at $4 per acre. He paid cash down for the timber but was obliged to go in debt for the other. He put up a frame house and hauled the finishing lumber for it from a point east of Eugene, Ind., the trip occupying three days. He lived at this place seven years then traded it for a tract of raw land, three and one-half miles southwest of Fairmount. Removing to this he went through the same process as before, bringing the new soil to a state of cultivation, putting up another house and hauling the lumber as before from the same place. This continued the home of our subject and his little family until after the outbreak of the late Civil War.

Although there was much to engross the time and thoughts of Mr. Burroughs in connection with his personal interests he, nevertheless, responded to the call of his country and in August, 1862, entered the army as Captain of Company E, 73d Illinois Infantry. He participated with one exception, in all the battles of his regiment, being prevented by illness from taking part in the fight at Murfreesboro, Tenn. On the 18th of December, 1864, he was promoted to the rank of Major. Although in many of the important engagements which followed he was never wounded except, as he expressed it, "in the hat." He has a vivid recollection of the battles of Perryville, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Rocky Face, Burnt Hickory, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Lovejoy's Station, Franklin, the two days at Nashville and the fight at Dalton and Resaca. After Lee's surrender he was mustered out in June, 1865, at Camp Butler, Ill.

Upon retiring from the army Major Burroughs returned to his farm which he occupied until 1867. Then, removing to Fairmount, he purchased a home and has since lived retired from active labor. After giving to his two children each a farm he still has 324 acres left. There were born to him and his excellent wife four children, of whom Melissa, the eldest daughter, became the wife of I. N. Wilcox, who died Sept. 19, 1887, leaving his widow with one child, Harry B; Elsworth Thompson Burroughs, the eldest son of our subject, married Miss Laura Custer, and is the father of two children—Fred and Frank—living near Westville; Esther M., is the wife of William P. Witherspoon and the mother of three children—Stella, Wilson W. and Myrtle; they live in a home adjoining that of Mr. Burroughs. The youngest child Newton W., remains at home with his parents.

Mr. Burroughs usually votes the straight Republican ticket but further than this takes no active part in politics and has avoided the responsibilities of office, although serving as Director and Trustee in his district. He has been a member of the Town Council and as an ex-soldier, belonged to George N. Neville, Post, G. A. R. until its discontinuance. Major and Mrs. Burroughs together with all their children, are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Fairmount. This was organized in 1869 and the Major has been one of its Elders since that time. He has always entertained an active interest in the Sunday-school in which he has held the office of Superintendent many years. He ranks among the foremost temperance men of this community and in all his dealings has preserved that honest and upright course in life which as been the surest guarantee of a substantial success and paved the way to a position in the front ranks among the responsible men of this community. He knows by what toil and struggle his posessions were accumulated, and has a faculty of investing his capital to the best advantage.

A portrait of Major Burroughs, which appears in this volume will be valued by his many friends in the county, and especially by his comrades in the G. A. R.

ALBERT VOORHES, a prominent and well-to-do farmer and stock-raiser of Catlin Township, numbered among its most benevolent and public-spirited citizens, is a fine type of our self-made men, who while working hard to establish themselves in the world have materially added to the wealth of this county. When he and his wife began life together, they had to commence in the humblest way, having no means, but by their united labors, with wise econ-

omy and prudent management, they have secured a competence, and have built up one of the most attractive homes in the township.

Mr. Voorhes is a native of the good old State of Pennsylvania, born in Washington County Dec. 26, 1833, the fourth child in the family of twelve children, five sons and seven daughters, belonging to Andrew W. and Mary (Crockard) Voorhes. His father was born in New Jersey and his mother in Pennsylvania, and after marriage, they made their home in Washington County, Pa., and there their entire wedded life was passed, and there death found them well-prepared for its summons. The father was a farmer and stock-raiser.

Their son Albert, the subject of this biographical review, was reared to manhood in the home of his birth, remaining an inmate of the parental household till he married and established domestic ties of his own. That important event in his life took place in his native county Sept. 12, 1857, on which date he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Sarah J. Baker. Mrs. Voorhes is a daughter of Enoch and Margaret (Speers) Baker, who were natives of Washington County, Pa., the father spending his entire life there. The mother is still living at an advanced age. Mrs. Voorhes is the eldest of the eight children, three daughters and five sons, born to her parents, and she first saw the light of day amid the pretty scenes surrounding her early home Dec. 19, 1839. She was reared to womanhood in Washington County, and carefully trained in all the duties of caring for a household, and was thus admirably fitted for the part of wife and mother that she has performed so well. To her and our subject ten children have been born, of whom the following is recorded: Emery A., died when he was six months old; Samuel W., died when he was twenty-one, his death having been caused by a horse kicking him; Charles L., married Miss Cora A. McDonald; Linnia I., married Wallace Acree; Albert N., died when four months old; Della J. married Albert Fisher; Henry H., Florence B., Kimbro E., and Earl E., are at home.

In the fall of 1857, Mr. and Mrs. Voorhes, then recently married, left their old Pennsylvania home, and coming to Illinois, settled in Edgar County, about eight miles west of Paris. After living there two years, they came to Vermilion County where they have ever since made their home. Mr. Voorhes has a farm of 243 acres on section 1, Catlin Township, and eighty acres in Vance Township two miles south of Fairmount, on which he has erected a fine set of buildings, and has made other valuable improvements, besides putting the land under good cultivation, and has a place of which he may well be proud. At one time Mr. Voorhes moved to Fairmount with his family, and lived in retirement there for two years.

Mr. Voorhes possesses in a large degree the rugged honesty, truthfulness and steadfast character that mark the man of all men in whom to place implicit confidence. He has good natural abilities, and knows well how to work to the best advantage, hence his prosperity. He and his wife are people of warm hearts and genial, social dispositions, so that they are much loved in this community with whose people they have dwelt in amity and peace these many years. They are devoted members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, of which he has been an Elder for more than twenty years. In politics, Mr. Voorhes is a sturdy Democrat of the Jacksonian style. He takes a lively interest in public affairs, and has done his township good service as Road Commissioner, which office he has held for the last six years; and as School Director, he having acted in that capacity a long term of years.

WILLIAM P. VAN ALLEN. The subject of this notice deserves more than a passing mention in noting the events in the lives of the prominent men of Vermilion County, to whom it owes in a large measure its uniform prosperity and steadily increasing growth, both morally, socially and financially. We find this representative agriculturist pleasantly situated on a fine farm occupying a part of section 36 in Oakwood Township, in the enjoyment of a homestead which he has built up by his own industry and perseverance. He came to this county like many of his compeers, with limited means, but was possessed of

those invaluable qualities of persistence and energy which are usually attended by success. He was soon recognized as a valued addition to the community, and from time to time was placed in various positions of trust and responsibility, the duties of which he has uniformly discharged with honesty and fidelity.

In the biography of John H. Van Allen, on another page in this ALBUM, will be found the parental history of our subject, who is a child of the same family. He was born Dec. 20, 1840, in Licking County, Ohio, and there spent his boyhood and youth, receiving a practical education in the common school. He served an apprenticeship at the carpenter trade with his father and worked at this until reaching his majority. After the outbreak of the Civil War he entered the Union Army, Aug. 14, 1862, as a member of Company G, 97th Ohio Infantry, with which he served three years and until the close of the conflict. He, like his brother, met the enemy first in battle at Perryville, and later was at Wild Cat Mountain, Crab Orchard and Nashville, where his regiment was placed under the command of General Rosecrans and subsequently fought at Stone River. They spent the winter at this point, in the meantime engaging in several skirmishes and then proceeded to Tallahoma, Tenn., and to Chattanooga, following up the rebel general, Bragg. The 97th Regiment, was, with others of the brigade, ordered in company with Gen. Wilder's Mounted Infantry to march ten miles, pulling the artillery by hand up the mountain, and opened fire on Chattanooga on Waldon Ridge for ten days. This was in order to allow Gen. Rosecrans with his army to cross at Stevenson, forty miles below.

Our subject with his comrades was now constantly under fire, and the 97th was the first regiment to enter Chattanooga. They did provost duty there during the battle of Chickamauga, and later participated in the fight at Mission Ridge, where the regiment lost over 140 killed and wounded. Soon afterward they were ordered upon a forced march to relieve Gen. Burnside, at Knoxville, Tenn., and later our subject with his comrades was assigned to the command of Gen. O. O. Howard. After this he fought at the battle of Dandridge. The regiment then retreated back to Knoxville. They guarded the railroad in that vicinity during the winter. On the 3d of May, 1864, they concentrated at Cleveland, Tenn., preparing for the memorable march to the sea.

At the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, on the 22d of June, Mr. Van Allen was severely wounded in the right thigh by a minie ball. He was sent first to the hospital at Nashville and subsequently transferred to Louisville, from which point his father took him home. When sufficiently recovered he reported at Columbus, Ohio, and was sent to Camp Dennison, where he received his honorable discharge in 1865. He had his full share of the hardships and privations of army life, and has never fully recovered from the effects of his wounds and the drain upon his constitution caused by hard fare, the forced marches and the sojourn among the malarial districts of the South.

Upon returning home Mr. Van Allen served an apprenticeship at the potter's trade and followed it about three years. In the meantime he was married, Nov. 21, 1866, to Miss Caroline V. Kiger, who was the only child of her parents, and was born in Virginia, in 1847. The young people sojourned in the Buckeye State until 1869, then came to Illinois, and a year later Mr. Van Allen purchased land and began the construction of a farm. He put up a fine residence in 1879 and is the owner of 112 acres under a thorough state of cultivation. Stock-raising forms a leading feature in his operations, and he makes a specialty of Poland-China swine, while he has nearly twenty head of draft horses and a few equines not quite so valuable.

Mr. Van Allen takes a pardonable pride in the fact that his first presidential vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln, and he voted for Benjamin Harrison with equal enthusiasm early upon election day in 1888. He is a sound Republican with clear and decided ideas as to the reason of the faith within him. He at an early date became identified with the G. A. R., and has been Commander of George Morrison Post, No. 635, at Glenburn, since its organization. He is likewise connected with Newtown Lodge, in which he has been Treasurer for years. He represented Oakwood Town-

ship in the County Board of Supervisors two years, was Justice of the Peace four years and has been School Director nine years. Probably no man in the township has contributed in a more effectual manner to its steady growth and uniform prosperity.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Allen are the parents of nine children, four sons and five daughters, all living: Walter, Frank, Stats, Bertie, John, Mary, Etta, Nellie and Vida. They are being carefully reared and educated in a manner fitting them for their future station in life as the offspring of one of the representative families of Central Illinois.

THOMAS C. McCAUGHEY, M. D. The medical profession of Vermilion County numbers among its members some very able and conscientious men, and among them may be classed the subject of this notice. He has distinguished himself as a conscientious practioner, both of medicine and surgery and has been located in Hoopeston since 1871. He is well known as the junior partner of the firm of Peirce & McCaughey, the druggists of Main street.

Dr. McCaughey is a gentleman in the prime of life, in the forty-ninth year of his age, having been born Jan. 20, 1841, in Sharon Center, Medina Co., Ohio. He spent his youthful days there and at Fredericksburg, Wayne County. His father, Robert McCaughey, conducted an hotel and engaged in mercantile pursuits. Thomas C. completed his education at Fredericksburg and soon afterward, the Civil War being in progress, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company H, 102d Ohio Infantry. This was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland and our subject participated in all the engagements of his regiment, serving three years without wound or capture while half of his comrades were killed or wounded. He was frequently in the thickest of the fight and upon several occasions his escape seemed nothing less than a miracle. At the close of the war he was mustered out at Columbus, Ohio, and received his honorable discharge July 8, 1865.

Upon retiring from the army our subject visited his home for a brief time, then came directly to Paxton, this State, where he commenced the study of medicine under Drs. Kelso and Randolph, with whom he remained two years. Next he entered the medical department of Michigan University at Ann Arbor, being a member of the class of 1867. This was followed by another course in Rush Medical College, Chicago, after which he received his diploma and established himself in Ford County, near the present town of Rankin, where his rides extended over a large section of country.

In 1871, soon after the laying out of Hoopeston, Dr. McCaughey came to this place, being the first physician to establish himself here. In 1881 he associated himself in partnership with Dr. Peirce. For over twelve years he has been surgeon for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company. He makes a specialty of surgery and in his office may be seen the latest instruments and appliances in keeping with the progress of this science. He has been a close student and avails himself of every opportunity for information in connection with this most important calling. He is a member of the Board of Pension Examiners and of the Board of Health in Hoopeston. He has for some years been connected with the United Presbyterian Church of which he is an Elder and has officiated as Superintendent of the Sunday-school for seventeen years. He has always maintained a warm interest in its prosperity and given to it a liberal support. He has no political aspirations, but thoroughly believes in the principles of the Republican party.

Miss Mary E. Johnson, of Rankin, became the wife of our subject Jan. 24, 1871, and to them have been born three children,—Cora Etta, Mary Isie and Robert S. Of these Cora Etta is dead and the last two are living and are aged fifteen and thirteen respectively. Cora Etta was the first child born in Hoopeston. It is the intention of their parents to bestow upon them all the social and educational advantages, befitting their station in life. Mrs. McCaughey was born near Bellefontaine, Ohio, Sept., 1845 and is the daughter of Stanton and Jane (Stevenson) Johnson, who settled in the vicinity of Rankin, where the father purchased land from which he built up a good farm

and there his daughter, Mary E., lived until her marriage. The father is deceased. The mother is still living and is now quite aged.

Robert McCaughey, the father of our subject, in early manhood engaged in general merchandising, being located on the road between Medina and Akron, Ohio, where also was situated his hotel and where he lived until Thomas C., our subject, was a lad of ten years. He then removed to Doyleston where his death took place in 1853. Politically, he was an old line Whig.

LEVIN VINSON. In the life of the subject of this notice there are illustrated the results of a strong will under adverse circumstances, and that which may be accomplished by steady perseverance in an honest purpose and following the impulses of a worthy nature stirred to continuous action, together with the promptings which fill a man with a desire to be able not only to respect himself, but to secure a like sentiment from his fellow-citizens. There are few men who have warmer or truer friends than Mr. Vinson, who, without making any great stir in the world, has fully established himself in the confidence of those who know him, and who is designated as having a tender heart under a rough exterior. The place which he holds in this community has not been secured by the amount of his wealth, but by the possession of those qualities which are better than silver and gold.

The Vinson family were first represented in this country in Maryland, whence they emigrated to Kentucky, where Henson Vinson, the father of our subject, was born and engaged in farming pursuits. Upon reaching manhood he was married to Miss Abigail McDowell, likewise a native of the Blue Grass State, whence they removed to Park County, Ind. They sojourned there until 1841, then coming to Illinois, settled in this county, and the father died seven years later, in 1848. His widow is still living in this county, and has now arrived at the advanced age of ninety years. They are the parents of nine children, six of whom are living.

The subject of this notice was the fourth child of his parents, and was born in Park County, Ind., Feb. 20, 1829. He received a very limited education, which was mostly obtained before he reached the age of twelve years. He remained at the farm working for his father until twenty years old, then purchased 320 acres of wild land through a soldier's land warrant, which proved to have been a forgery, and which resulted in the loss of 160 acres. When approaching the twenty-first year of his age, he was married, Nov. 12, 1849, to Miss Naomi Ligget, daughter of Jesse Ligget, who is represented elsewhere in this volume.

The young people commenced their wedded life under favorable auspices, and though their little farm was undeveloped, they were blest with good health, cheerful hearts and willing hands, and united in a mutual purpose to built up a home for themselves. They still live in the house which was built thirty-five years ago, and Mr. Vinson is now the owner of 200 acres of thoroughly cultivated land.

Mr. and Mrs. Vinson have never had children of their own, but have raised two others. The eldest, whom they named Edwin Vinson, is now a man of thirty-three years. He married Miss Annie Rogers, lives on a part of the farm, and is the father of five children. The other boy was sent to Illinois from a New York juvenile asylum when seven years of age, was then taken by Mr. Vinson, and is now a promising youth of seventeen, a good, industrious boy, who has been susceptible to good training, and bids fair to make a worthy citizen and a first-class farmer.

In 1862, during the progress of the Civil War, our subject, in company with his brother John, raised a company of men, which was made a part of the 125th Illinois Infantry. Of this Mr. Vinson was elected Captain, and served as such for nearly two years, commanding his company at the battle of Perryville and during the campaign about Nashville. During the last five months of the service he was quite ill and finally obliged to resign his position and return home. He votes the straight Republican ticket, and has served as School Director and Road Commissioner. Socially he belongs to Newtown Lodge, No. 714, A. F. & A. M., in which he has

been Treasurer for several years. He is likewise identified with the G. A. R., as a member of George Morrison Post, No. 635, at Glenburn in which he has been Quartermaster since its organization. Mrs. Vinson has been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church for the last thirty-five years, and when a younger lady was greatly interested in Sunday-school work, officiating as a teacher and otherwise looking after the religious interests of the young.

The paternal grandmother of our subject lived to be one hundred and seven years old, and was twice married, her second husband being Mr. Gibbons, of Maryland. At the age of one hundred she went out and held a prairie plow to which eight yoke of oxen were attached, and followed it for a quarter of a mile. During the last five years of her life she made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Vinson.

HENRY V. DAVIS owns and operates a splendid farm in Vance Township. As early as the year 1835 he located in Illinois, coming from Ohio. He and his brother Abram came with their father to put in a crop. They remained here while the father returned to Ohio to close up his business. When he returned he made the largest entry of land that is on record at the Danville land-office in one man's name—over 3,000 acres.

Mr. Davis, of whom this sketch is written, received his education in the primitive schools in the pioneer days of Illinois. When he was nineteen years of age he left the schoolroom and gave his attention to work on his father's farm, continuing to labor in this way until after he was married. On Feb. 18, 1842, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ann Copeland, a daughter of Samuel Copeland, a farmer, who lived seven miles northwest of Danville. Mr. and Mrs. Davis were the parents of six children, who lived beyond infancy. Samuel H., the eldest son, was born Sept. 5, 1844, and when the war broke out he enlisted, Aug. 22, 1861, in Company F, 26th Illinois Infantry. He remained with his regiment until June, 1862, when he was taken sick and died, his death occurring at Darlington, Tenn., June 9, 1862. He was interred at the above named place. William E. a farmer who lives in Nebraska, married Mrs. Lilly M. Lucas, daughter of Samuel King, and widow of Robert Lucas. Sarah Elizabeth married George R. Gamble, a photographer of Champaign, Ill.; they have two children. The mother of these children died Sept. 6, 1858. Mr. Davis continued housekeeping after the death of his wife, and May 25, 1859, he remarried, taking for his second wife Catherine, a daughter of Cornelius and Mary Callahan, of Canada. Mr. Callahan was a farmer and had seven children, of whom Mrs. Davis was the eldest, having been born March 11, 1833. She received her early education in Canada, and completed it in Union Seminary, located at Danville, Ill. She was a very successful school teacher, and is a lady of culture and refinement. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are the parents of three children: Oscar Harmon married Clara H. Brown; he is a farmer living in Minnesota. They are the parents of three children: Ira Grant, the second son, married Mary Elizabeth Palmer. They are residing on the old homestead and are the parents of one child—Mallie Leona, who was born on Christmas Day, 1888; George W. is unmarried and lives at home.

Mr. Davis owns 426 acres of land in this county, and 514 in Champaign County; a half-section in Minnesota, and a house and four lots in Champaign, where he lived thirteen years for the purpose of educating his family. As a farmer Mr. Davis has been eminently successful, and to his children he has given much land and other property. All of the home farm is under excellent cultivation excepting about fifty acres. This place he rented in 1854 and removed to his Champaign County farm, where he remained a year, returning to the old homestead. In 1852 he sold a lot of mules with the intention of reinvesting the money in the same kind of property, but instead, he entered 982 acres of land, and he never has regretted it. His father gave him 400 acres to begin life with, and he has added to that until he now owns nearly 2,000 acres of land.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis worship at the Baptist Church, of which he has been Trustee and Deacon

for a long time. He gave $1,000 to aid in the erection of the Baptist University at Chicago, the site for which was given by Stephen A. Douglas. While Mr. Davis does not take an active part in politics, he always attends elections, and the last Democratic ballot cast by him was for Franklin Pierce. The troubles in Kansas and Nebraska made him a Republican, and he has since voted for the nominees of that party. Mr. Davis' ability for accumulating land and other property, is an evidence of his cleverness as a sound business man and a progressive farmer.

JOHN BRADY, a veteran of the late war, is a representative of one of the early settlers of Vermilion County who bore an honorable part in the development of its immense agricultural resources. He is a native of Danville Township, born Feb. 1, 1837, and the old homestead which was his birthplace is still in his possession, and he derives a good income from its rental. He is now living in retirement in the village of Tilton, having accumulated a handsome competence by shrewd management and judicious investments.

His father, also named John, was one of the pioneers of this county, a native of Virginia, whence he was taken when he was very young to Ohio, his parents then becoming early settlers of Brown County. There he grew to manhood and married, but instead of settling there he decided to come further west, making the journey hither at first on horseback to prospect. He was so pleased with the country that he went back to Ohio for his family, and they returned here with team. This section of the country was very sparsely settled at that time, and the most of the land was owned by the Government, and was for sale to whomsoever cared to buy it, at $1.25 an acre. Mr. Brady very soon made a claim to a tract of land three miles southwest of the city of Danville, or of its present site, and entered it from the Government at the land office at Palestine. He first built a round log house on the place for a temporary residence, but soon afterward put up a more substantial hewed log house, in which dwelling the subject of this sketch was born. A short time after he erected a frame house, which is still standing, and is one of the oldest frame houses in existence in the county. The frame of this house was first put up in South Town by a man who intended it for a hotel. He failed, however, before it was completed, and the father of our subject bought the frame and erected it on his homestead. The sideboard, casings, window frames, in fact, all the finishing, was made of black walnut. Mr. Brady, Sr. improved a good farm, and was a resident thereon till death closed his useful career. The maiden name of his wife, mother of our subject, was Rosanna Kratzer, and she was a native of Ohio. Her father, Henry Kratzer, removed from Ohio to Indiana, and was a pioneer of Marion County. He developed a farm from the wilderness about one mile from Indianapolis, and resided there the remainder of his life. The mother of our subject died on the old homestead. She and her husband were people of sterling worth and were influential in their neighborhood, all regarding them with esteem and respect.

He of whom we write remembers well the incidents of pioneer life here and the primitive style of living necessitated by the distance from the centres of civilization. He grew to be a stalwart, manly lad, fond of the chase, and as soon as large enough to shoulder a rifle he often went hunting and killed many a deer, wild turkeys and other game that were a welcome addition to the home larder. He gleaned his education in the pioneer school which was held in the old log school house, with rude home-made benches for seats. He resided with his parents till after the breaking out of the war, and in July, 1862 he answered his country's call for her brave and patriotic citizens to aid in suppressing the rebellion, and enlisted in Company A, 125th Illinois Infantry. The first important engagement in which he took an active part was the battle of Perrysville. He afterward fought in the battle of Chickamauga, and was with Sherman in his campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta, engaging in all the important battles on the march. After the siege and capture of Atlanta he

followed his gallant leader to Savannah, and thence by the way of Richmond to Washington, and was present at the grand review. He was honorably discharged with his regiment at Chicago, having proved a brave and efficient soldier, willing to face all danger, and never shirking his duty, and arrived here on the 3d of July, 1865.

After leaving the army Mr. Brady resumed farming on the old homestead which he now owns. In 1883, having accumulated a fine property by years of steady industry, he retired from farming and removed to Tilton, where he purchased his present residence and has since made his home here.

Mr. Brady was married in February, 1859, to Miss Mary Conlin, a native of the State of New York, and they have four children living—Margaret, John, Charlie, Edith. Margaret married William Martin, a resident of Tilton, and they have two children, Mary and William.

Mr. and Mrs. Brady are very estimable people and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. He is a man of sound discretion and sober judgment, a safe counsellor, and one who kindly and unostentatiously extends a helping hand to the needy and suffering with whom he comes in contact. He is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church.

JOHN N. ENGLEMANN is entitled to representation in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM as an intelligent, practical member of the farming community of Vermilion County. He is classed among our self-made men, as he began life with no capital but a sturdy, self-reliant, capable manhood, and has become independent and prosperous, and, as old age approaches, finds himself in possession of a comfortable competence and well fortified against want and poverty. His farm on section 22, Catlin Township, is provided with an excellent class of buildings, and its soil is admirably tilled, yielding abundant harvests in repayment for the labor and money bestowed on it.

Our subject was born in Prussia, July 29, 1828, and is the son of John Nicholas and Margaret (Kimmel) Englemann. The wife died in Germany. The father subsequently emigrated to this country, and after a time removed to Du Quoin, Ill., where he died. The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in his native country, but in the early years of his manhood he determined to cross the Atlantic and seek in the United States of America the prosperity denied him at home. In March, 1854, he left the beloved Fatherland on an American-bound vessel, and twenty-eight days later the ocean was between him and the familiar scenes amid which he had been reared. He disembarked at New York and made his way from that city to Summit County, Ohio, where he engaged in digging coal, which employment he had followed in the old country. He lived in different places in Ohio till 1857, when he came to Vermilion County to avail himself of the many advantages it offered a poor man to make his way to comparative affluence. Liking the country here, he decided to remove his family to this county and settle here permanently. At first they lived in Danville Township, but a year later Mr. Englemann came to Catlin Township with his wife and children, and rented a farm five years; and at the same time he worked in the coal mines in the winter, carrying on his farming operations during the other seasons of the year. In 1864 he had been so prudent and industrious that he had managed to save up quite a little sum of money, and was enabled to purchase eighty acres of land, which is included in his present farm. In the busy years that followed he made many valuable improvements, erecting a substantial, well-built dwelling, a good barn and other necessary outbuildings, and placed his land under a high state of cultivation, devoting himself entirely to agricultural pursuits. He bought more land, and his farm now comprises 120 acres of fine farming land that compares in fertility and productiveness with the best in the township.

During these years of toil Mr. Englemann has not been without the assistance of a good wife, who has been to him all that a faithful helpmate could be. They were united in marriage in their native Prussia, in September, 1853. Her maiden

name was Maria Schuetz, and she was born Dec. 18, 1834. She is the daughter of Michael and Maria (Graser) Schuetz, who emigrated to this country and were buried in this township. Their happy wedded life has been blessed to Mr. and Mrs. Englemann by the birth of eight children, as follows: Nicholas, Jacob, Mary F., Margaretta S., John W., Sophia, Charles and Elizabeth; all are living.

In our subject his fellow-townsmen find those desirable qualities and manly traits of character that make him a useful citizen and a good neighbor, one in whom they may place their trust with a surety that it will not be abused. In politics he is a Republican, and faithfully supports his party at the polls. Religiously, he and his wife are exemplary members of the Lutheran Church, and carry their Christian faith into their everyday lives.

A fine lithographic view of the handsome residence, farm and outbuildings on the place of Mr. Englemann is shown elsewhere in this work.

GEORGE M. VILLARS, one of the best known residents of this county and the owner of a fine property, was born in Danville Township, Oct. 16, 1832, and is consequently but little past the prime of life. He is the offspring of a good family, being the son of the Rev. John Villars, who was born in Jefferson County, Pa., Feb. 14, 1797.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was James Villars, who it is believed was also a native of Jefferson County, Pa., and who was born July 28, 1774. His father was a native of England, and it is supposed spent his last years in the Keystone State. Grandfather James Villars was there reared to man's estate and married Miss Rebecca Davison, April 19, 1796. In April, 1806, they removed to Ohio by means of a flat-boat, which landed them at Cincinnati, then but a hamlet. They settled in what is now Clinton County, where grandfather Villars purchased quite a large tract of land and improved the farm, upon which he resided until his death. In 1812 he put up a substantial double hewed-log house with a large stone chimney in the center of the building and a huge fireplace on each side. This structure stood for a great many years and was a fitting monument to the character and enterprise of its builder.

The father of our subject was piously inclined from his youth and when a young man united with the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1823 he was given a license to exhort, and from that time labored as a local preacher. In the fall of 1830 he came to this county with his family, making the journey overland with teams, camping and cooking by the wayside and sleeping in the wagons at night. He had, however, visited the country prior to his removal here and had entered a tract of land upon which he had a log house built ready for the family upon their arrival. From that time on, in addition to his ministerial labors, he carried on the improvement and cultivation of his land, living there until 1857.

In the year above mentioned the father of our subject decided to seek another home beyond the Mississippi, and emigrated to Nemeha County, Neb., where he was one of the pioneers and to which he made the journey overland as before. He lived, however, only until the following year, his death taking place in March, 1858. He had been twice married, the first time, March 14, 1816, to Miss Elizabeth McGee. This lady was born Sept. 25, 1797, and died in Vermilion County, April 22, 1848. His second wife was Elizabeth Campbell, and they were married Oct. 10, 1849. She was a native of Harrison County, Va., and born Sept. 2, 1816. Of the first marriage there were born ten children and of the second marriage three. The father left the Methodist Episcopal Church after a time and identified himself with the United Brethren and was a preacher in the latter Church at the time of his death. He was a life member of the American Bible Society and bequeathed to it the sum of $6,000.

Our subject still retains a vivid recollection of many of the incidents of pioneer life in Illinois, when deer, wolves and other wild animals abounded, together with Indians who were often to be seen in roving bands going across the prairie. He ac-

quired his education in the primitive schools, the first of which was taught in a log house. The seats and floor were made of puncheon, and writing desks were manufactured from planks with wooden pegs for legs. As soon as old enough, young Villars began to assist his father in the various labors of the farm and remained under the parental roof until the time of his marriage. He then settled on a tract of land which his father had given him and upon which were two log cabins. In one of these our subject and his bride commenced their wedded life. Their home consisted of one room sixteen feet square, and in this they lived a number of years and until they were able to put up their present residence. The furnishing of this humble dwelling was in keeping with the fashion of that day, but they probably experienced as much happiness and content as the young people who now commence life upon a grander scale.

Mr. Villars has been a life-long farmer and still owns the land upon which he settled at the time of his marriage. He has now 186 acres, located five miles east of Danville, on sections 7 and 12 of Danville Township. It has all been brought to a good state of cultivation, is well stocked, and upon it Mr. Villars has erected a good set of frame buildings. His marriage with Miss Amanda Srouf was celebrated at the bride's home in this township, Oct. 20, 1853, and there have been born to them eleven children, of whom the record is as follows: John W. married Martha Marble, and is a resident of Warren County, Ind.; George Henry married Martha Brewer, and lives at Fort Belknap, Mont.; Martha J. is the wife of William P. Lynch, of this county; Rachel, Mrs. Presley Martin, lives in Vermillion County, Ind.; William married Ida Shaffer, and is a resident of this county; Ruth, Mrs. Charles Elder resides in State Line City, Ind.; Mary Frances is the wife of John Elder, of Terre Haute, Ind.; Augusta is the wife of William Gnaden, and they live in Danville Township; Ella married William F. Shaffer, and resides in Warren County, Ind.; Sophia and Janet remain with their parents.

Mrs. Villars was born near Hanover, Hancock Co., Ind., Feb. 7, 1832, and is the daughter of Sebastian Srouf, who was born in Kentucky, July 25, 1796. Her paternal grandfather, John Srouf, it is believed, was a native of either North or South Carolina, and his father, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Villars, was a native of Germany. John Srouf removed from one of the Carolinas to Kentucky, where he was an early pioneer, then moved on into Ohio, locating in Brown County during its early settlement. He served in the war of 1812 and spent his last years in the Buckeye State.

Sebastian Srouf, father of Mrs. Villars, was born July 25, 1796, and was a young child when his parents settled in Ohio, where he was reared to manhood, and was married Sept. 11, 1817, to Vallyrier Parker. She was born in Ohio, and the date of her birth was June 25, 1796. In 1830 they removed to Indiana, settling in Hancock County, where they lived until 1834. That year they came to this county, making the journey overland with teams, locating in what is now Newell Township. The parents remained residents of this township until their decease, the mother passing away Oct. 29, 1874, and the father less than a year later, Feb. 12, 1875.

There were born to the parents of Mrs. Villars eleven children, viz.: Nancy, Martha, George, Mary, Wilson, Sarah, Jane, Amanda, Arie, John and Christiana. Four of these, Mary, John, Arie and Christiana, died young. Our subject and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church, of Pleasant Grove, in which Mr. Villars has served as Class-Leader and labored in the Sunday-school. In politics at large he is a sound Democrat, but in local affairs votes independently, aiming to support the men whom he considers best qualified for office. We invite the attention of our numerous readers to a fine engraving of the handsome home and surroundings of Mr. Villars, on another page of this volume.

GEORGE M. SPRY, prominent among the boys in blue, whose name deserves to be recorded in history is the name of the person at the head of this sketch. He was born in Vermillion County, Ind., three-fourths of a mile

from the Illinois line, on Jan. 5, 1846. His father, David Spry, was a native of North Carolina and was reared in Tennessee and Kentucky, principally the latter. The Spry family was prominently identified with Colonial history and were very active in the struggle for independence.

Early in life David Spry was thrown upon his own resources, but by his great force of character he made a success in life. He was married to Miss Patsey Cummings in Clark County, Ky. She was born in that State as were also her parents. The elder Mr. and Mrs. Spry, removed to Perrysville, Ind., two years after their marriage, which was in the fall of 1829. They settled on their farm in 1830, where they resided until 1857, when Mr. Spry retired from active life and moved to Perrysville, where he has since lived. His wife died on the farm at the age of forty-five years, her death occurring in 1854. She became the mother of twelve children, nine of whom grew to manhood and womanhood. Their record is herewith given: Catherine married Talt Parish, who is a farmer; she died in 1855. Joseph W. is a carpenter and is living at Turner, Ind.; he enlisted in the 125th Illinois Infantry, serving three years; he married Debora Paggett. Hester married William Hughes, a wealthy farmer, who is living near Gessie, Ind.; they have six children: Ella, Anna, David, Charles, Albert and Ora. Nancy A. married Henry Caruthers; she died in 1863, leaving three children—William, Albert and Marintha. Judia married Elijah Lowe; she died in 1863. Caroline is the wife of Almond Hunt, a prosperous farmer who lives near Gessie, Ind.; they have one child, Albert.

George M. Spry passed his early childhood on his father's farm at first attending the common schools, afterwards studying at the High School at Perrysville, Ind., where he was at the time of his enlistment in the army. He joined Company D, of the 57th Indiana Infantry and served until the close of the war. Among other engagements in which he took part are: Pulaski, Columbia, Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville. From the latter place he assisted in driving Hood over the Tennessee River, after which his regiment proceeded to Huntsville, Ala., where it remained from Jan. 5, to March 26, 1865. From here it was transported via Chattanooga and Knoxville through Bulls Gap to Blue Springs and Greenville, Tenn., where it was expected to aid in the opposition of Lee's advance westward. But at this place they received the news of the collapse of the Southern Confederacy. Mr. Spry was slightly wounded by a ball which struck his breast-plate at the battle of Nashville, and Nov. 30, 1864, received two slight wounds at Franklin, Tenn. He was seriously injured at Pulaski, Tenn., by a wagon running over his right instep, but this did not prevent him from missing more than two or three roll calls. He was at Blue Springs when the sad news of Lincoln's assassination was received. Returning to Nashville his regiment was ordered to the Southwest via New Orleans and the Gulf of Mexico. They went to Victoria, Tex., to correct some disorders which were prevalent there at the time. Here on Oct. 20, 1865, after fourteen months of hard service, Mr. Spry was mustered out of the service. He arrived home on the 18th of the following month and immediately took up his studies. In the spring of 1866 he engaged in the general merchandise business at Perrysville, Ind., doing a very large business, but on account of the depression in the value of goods he closed out, paying 100 cents on the dollar. When he wound up his affairs he found that his capital amounted to just ten cents. He next directed his attention to the hedge planting industry, starting a nursery on the "Shady Nook" farm, and continued in that business for two seasons, in the meantime carrying on a farm. From 1876 to 1878 he devoted all his time to teaching, when about this time he made the acquaintance of Chapman Bros., publishers of Chicago, in whose employ he entered and where he has worked with a large degree of success since. The publishers wish to take this opportunity in expressing their satisfaction of the services rendered by Mr. Spry. He has proven a most valuable, reliable and efficient agent in the discharge of whatever duties imposed upon him. During these years he has been placed in many responsible positions and always acquitted himself manfully.

In 1868 Mr. Spry was married to Miss Martha A. Gray, daughter of Harvey M. and Susan Gray.

Mrs. Spry was born in Clinton County, Ind., coming to Illinois with her parents when she was ten years of age. Her father, Mr. H. Gray, was one of the leading men of Sidell Township. Mr. and Mrs. Spry have become the parents of six children: Edith died when she was three months old. Amy is also deceased, dying at the age of four. Zua is a successful teacher of Vermilion County. Daisy, Raymond M. and Mabel are at home attending school. Mr. and Mrs. Spry are living happily in their unpretentious home, where they are always ready to dispense hospitality. In choosing their home they have exhibited good judgment in locating in the charming and enterprising village of Sidell. Mrs. Spry is a member of the Christian Church and the two oldest daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and also of the Ladies Aid Society. Mr. Spry is a member of the I. O. O. F., No. 252 at Homer, Ill., and belongs to the encampment. He is identified with the Modern Woodmen and with Post No. 536, G. A. R. In his political views he is a stanch Republican.

THORNTON K. HAGLEY. On section 24, Newell Township, lies a fine farm whose fair fields yield abundant harvests to careful and skillful cultivation. The gentleman whose name is at the head of this biographical sketch is the proprietor of this desirable estate comprising 153 acres, and here he and his family are enjoying all the comforts of life in the cosiest of homes.

Our subject is a native of Ohio, the place of his birth in Pickaway County, and the date thereof Nov. 7, 1833. His father, John J. Hagley, was a native of Germany, and after his migration to this country he married Rebecca Kendrick, a native of Virginia. After marriage they settled in Pickaway County, Ohio, among its pioneers. From there they subsequently removed to Covington, Fountain Co., Ind., and were early settlers there. Their remaining years were passed in Fountain County in peace and contentment till death closed their eyes to the scenes of earth. To those worthy people were born five children, of whom our subject was the youngest. He was five years old when his parents established a home in the wilds of Southern Indiana, and his boyhood and youth after that were passed in Fountain County till he was nineteen years of age. Then, ambitious to make his own way in the world, he resolved to seek the wonderful gold fields in California, whose discovery a few years before had caused such intense excitement throughout the world. He tried life in the mines of the Golden State four years, meeting with fair success, and then tiring of the rough, wild life of the frontier he retraced his steps to the more civilized regions of this part of the country, and resided in Fountain County, Ind., till the spring of 1864. In that season he removed to Warren County, Ind., close to the Illinois State line, where he lived the ensuing seven years. At the expiration of that time he came to Vermilion County and invested some of his capital in the farm where he now makes his home, and has ever since that time. He owns 153 acres of land that is not surpassed by any in the locality in point of fertility and cultivation. There is a substantial set of buildings and everything about the place wears an air of thrift and orderliness.

Jan. 13, 1859, Mr. Hagley took an important step in his life by marriage with Miss Melinda J. Diffenderfer, whereby he secured a good wife who looks well to the ways of her household and cares tenderly for the comfort of its inmates. Her parents, Gotleib and Mary Ann (Rogers) Diffenderfer, were born respectively in Pennsylvania and Ohio. After their marriage they settled in Pickaway County, Ohio, and from there removed to Fountain County, Ind., where he died. She still survives at an advanced age. They had ten children, of whom Mrs. Hagley was the fourth in order of birth. She was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Dec. 28, 1813. Her wedded life with our subject has been blessed to them by the birth of four children, as follows: Clara A., who died when seven years old; William W., who married Minnie Byers; they live in this township; Ida M., who died when twenty-one months old; Albert G., a young man aged eighteen. Sorrow has come to our subject and wife in the death of their little girls, but

they are not without comfort in the thought of what those innocent children may have been spared by being so early removed from the cares and stains of this weary work-a-day world.

"The sun comes up, and the sun goes down
On sorrow, and sin, and aching,
And to all the evil that's in the world,
Their darlings will know no waking;
They are wrapped in that dream of sweetness and calm
That will know no cruel waking."

Mr. and Mrs. Hagley stand well in this community as people of kind hearts and sound heads, who do what in them lies to promote the moral and material advancement of their township. Mr. Hagley has taken quite an interest in school affairs, and while holding some of the offices has done much to forward the advance of education in this locality. In politics he is a Democrat, stanchly supporting his party at all times.

ISAAC V. GOINGS, an ex-soldier of the Union Army, and who was obliged to accept his honorable discharge for disability Feb. 14, 1863, has been since that time able to do but little manual labor and has his farm operated by other parties. This, however, yields him a comfortable income and he receives a pension from the government. He is thus comfortably situated and is of that sanguine disposition which enables him to extract considerable happiness and content from life. He takes a lively interest in politics, votes the straight Republican ticket, and has been Constable in Catlin for two years and an Elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for the long period of twenty years. He thus presents a very fair record and is generally respected among the people of his community.

A native of Hardy County, now West Virginia, our subject was born Nov. 7, 1822, and was the fourth in a family of twelve children, only three of whom are living. His parents, Shadrack and Hester (Sears) Goings, were natives respectively of Virginia and Monongahela County, Pa. The paternal grandfather of our subject was born in England, and upon coming to America settled in the Old Dominion where he spent the remainder of his life. The father of our subject was a blacksmith by trade and died in 1862. The mother preceded her husband to the silent land a number of years, her decease taking place in 1847.

The early education of Isaac V. Goings was conducted in the subscription schools of his native State and he made his home with his parents, working for his father until he was twenty-three years old, and in the meantime learning the trade of a blacksmith. After leaving home he became overseer of negroes for a man by the name of Gabriel Fox, by whom he was employed four years. The two years after that were spent in the employ of a Mr. Cunningham at the same business. At the expiration of that time Mr. Goings emigrated to Ohio where he first worked on a farm and then began feeding stock, prosecuting this business two years. He was married in the Buckeye State, Sept. 15, 1854, to Miss Frances, daughter of John Price, of Madison County, Ohio, and who was born in that State in June, 1838.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Goings came directly to this county. Mr. Goings rented a farm, purchased a team on credit and thus began life in Illinois on a limited scale. He carried on agriculture for a number of years on different farms until the outbreak of the Rebellion. On the 3d of July, 1861, he entered the ranks of the Union Army as a member of Company I, 35th Illinois Infantry, enlisting as a private, and was soon promoted to Corporal. The regiment was first sent to the Marine Hospital at St. Louis, after which they repaired to Wilson's Creek, at Springfield, Mo., where they had a skirmish with the rebels, the Color Bearer of the regiment was shot down and Mr. Goings was ordered to rescue the colors and take them to the top of the court-house, pull down the rebel flag and put in its place the Union ensign. He picked up the banner and commenced the ascent and after considerable difficulty, hauled down the rebel flag just as the enemy began to drive back the Union troops. Our hero soon saw the position in which he was placed and waved the stars and stripes back and forth from the top of the court-house to en-

courage the boys. It had the desired effect and the Union troops rallied and soon drove the rebels from the town. It must be remembered that this feat was performed in the face of a murderous fire from the enemy, who aimed their guns at the intrepid Unionist and sought to dislodge him from his retreat.

The next engagement of the 35th was at Pea Ridge, and after this they went to Booneville, where Mr. Goings was knocked down by the butt of a rebel musket but sustained no serious injury. They left Cape Girardeau by steamer and reaching Hamburg Landing took part in the battle of Corinth, Miss., after which followed the battle of Stone River. At this point Mr. Goings was taken ill and sent to a hospital where he languished two weeks and was then transferred to a hospital at Quincy, Ill., from which he was finally discharged.

At Booneville Mr. Goings and a part of his regiment, including the Colonel, were taken prisoners by the rebels and marched about one mile when the latter were obliged to take off their picket guard and place them over the prisoners. Mr. Goings saw an opportunity to escape and breaking away ran for his life while the whole force of rebels opened fire upon him. He pursued a zigzag course as much as possible, but one buckshot passed entirely through his right forearm and he received a scalp wound. The only part of his gun left in his hand when he reached the Union camp was the metal barrel.

Upon another occasion, while assisting in guarding a bridge across a river in Missouri, Mr. Goings and his comrades were attacked by the rebels and driven off. They finally rallied and compelled the rebels to run, and during the skirmish Mr. Goings received a gunshot wound in the left side just below his heart. He was given up for dead and left upon the ground but later rallied and partially recovered, but he still suffers from acute heart disease or valvular affection of the heart.

Upon one occasion Mr. Goings fought a duel with a Texas Ranger. He and his foe were stationed on opposite sides of a large tree and each endeavored to use his gun upon the other. Finally by accident Mr. Goings remembered that he had a navy revolver in his belt and drawing it he sprang out and shot the Texan through the body, the ball breaking his watch chain. Mr. Goings secured the watch from his dead foe, but it was afterward taken from him by the Commissary Sergeant. He was certainly not lacking in courage during those troublous times and he takes a pardonable pride in recalling the scenes of other days which often "tried men's souls."

Mr. and Mrs. Goings have no children of their own but several years ago took into their hearts and home a little girl (Lizzie Doss) who is now the wife of Edwin Burroughs, (the license was issued in the name of Lizzie D. Goings) but who still lives with her foster parents. Mr. Goings is a member of Homer Post G. A. R. and enjoys a wide acquaintance with the people of this section. His estimable wife is a very intelligent, capable lady highly esteemed in her community.

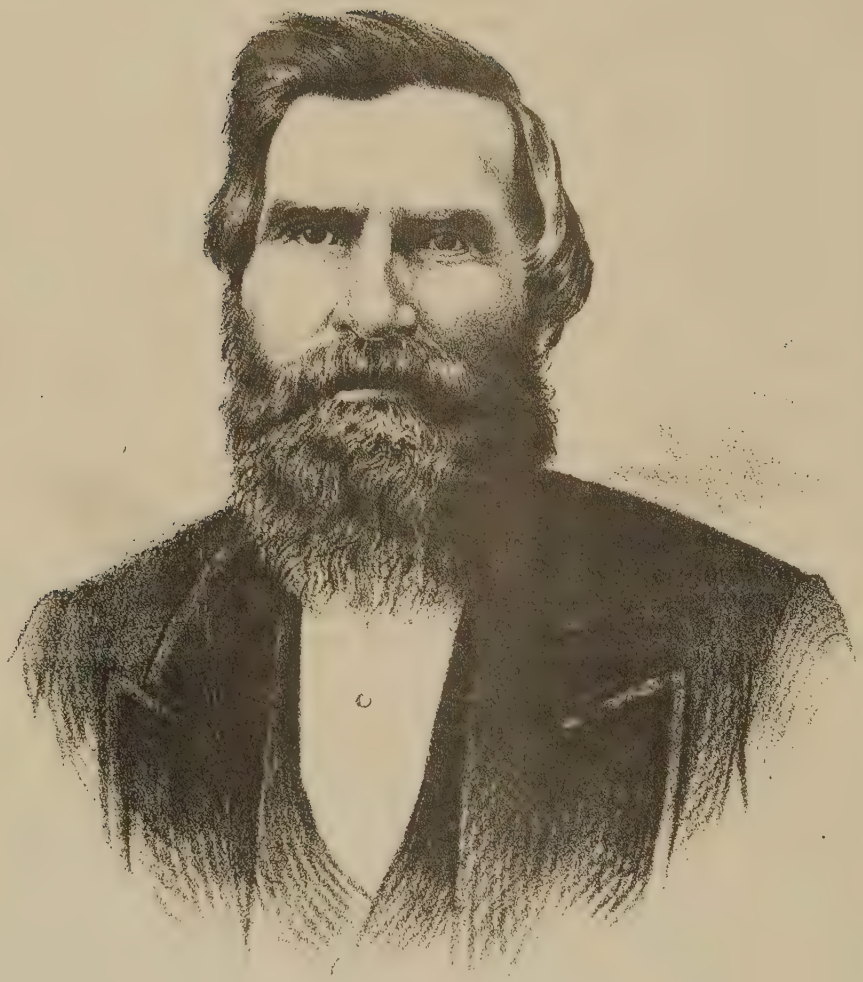
GEORGE W. MILLER has been a resident of Vermilion County for forty-four years. He was born in Vermillion County, Ind., Nov. 26, 1841, his parents being Andrew J. and Catherine (Moyer) Miller. The father was a native of Kentucky and the mother of Ohio. The Millers had been residents of Kentucky for several generations, and Andrew Miller had been brought to Indiana by his parents when twelve years old. There he lived until a few years after his marriage when he removed to this county, living the first year near Alvan, and then coming to where his son now lives. His first house was a log structure in which he lived for several years before he built the fine roomy residence on the opposite side of the road located on section 9, which is now owned by his widow. There he died on Aug. 23, 1873.

When he first came to this county, Andrew Miller was a poor man, having the means to buy only forty acres of land, a yoke of oxen and a horse. He worked faithfully and soon began to accumulate property, gradually adding to his possessions until, before his death, he was the owner of several farms in this county, and at one time having

1,500 acres and when he died he left over 1,000 acres, as he bought and sold whenever he could with advantage. His first start in life was obtained by hauling produce to Chicago with his ox-team. In this slow and laborious way he began, and his success well illustrates the capacity and energy of the man. When he first settled in Vermilion County in 1845, this was an entirely new country and he witnessed its rapid growth and prosperity, in which he was no small factor, and which was brought about by just such men as he. At this time there was only one house in sight of his cabin, that being another log house about three miles north of his, and where the thriving village of Rossville now stands was another cabin. Hard work and plenty of it was the lot of the pioneer and his family, and they literally earned their bread by the sweat of their brows. Breaking prairie was the first thing in order, and to the struggling, poor pioneer was no easy task. Gradually it was accomplished and he soon had his forty acres under cultivation. Fencing it was a necessity, but it had to be delayed for some time. George W. being the eldest of the children, at an early age learned what hard labor was, which contributed largely to his own success. Not only was hard work necessary in reclaiming the land but it was imperative that the pioneer guard against danger from wild animals, the wolves, especially being very numerous and daring, compelling him to shelter his live stock and poultry every night.

Andrew J. Miller and Catherine Moyer were married in Vermillion County, Ind., and became the parents of twelve children. The first two died in infancy before being named; the next was George W.; then Cornelius, who was a farmer of Ross Township, this county; Tabitha, deceased, was the wife of Jesse Tomlinson, after whose death she married Jonathan Prather; Nancy also deceased, was the wife of James U. Prather; Mary Isabelle, John T. and Enoch died when young; Joseph S. is a farmer in Ross Township, this county; Catherine is the wife of Maxwell Beckett, also a farmer in Ross Township; and Mildred is married to Morton Langsdon a farmer of the same place. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were well known to the old settlers of this county and greatly respected. He was a temperate and moral man, noted for his destestations of obscenity and profanity, which he never failed to check if uttered in his presence. He refused to accept office of any kind though often pressed to do so, preferring to devote all his time and attention to his own affairs. His widow, now in her sixty-fourth year is in good health and strength, and makes her home with her youngest daughter, Mildred.

George W. Miller in his youth endured the hardships and privations inseparable from the life of a pioneer. His first reccollections are of the log cabin which sheltered him when he was a boy. There his initiation into the rudiments of an education was received, the first school in this locality being held in his father's house, when the settlers became numerous enough to hire a teacher for their children. It was a good many years before a district school was established, and that was on the subscription plan. In this way the children of the first settlers grew up but although their actual "schooling" was little, they learned how to become good men and women and useful members of society. They early imbibed from their parents those lessons of industry and frugality, which were the general characteristics of the pioneer. George assisted his father on the farm until he was thirty years old when he married and settled on a part of the same tract, on which he now has his home, and which he subsequently bought from his father's estate. In the spring of 1873 he went to Nebraska with the intention of making that State his home, but the last illness of his father caused his return. In less than three months after he came back his father died, and he settled the estate and built for himself the house in which he now lives. His present property was partly bequeathed to him and partly purchased from the other heirs. When he got it there was only one building of any kind on the place, the present buildings have been erected by him. He has since added more land by purchase of adjoining property and has now 410 acres in all. A creek runs through a part of the farm making that portion especially desirable for stock-raising purposes to which it is devoted. Mr. Miller having, on an average, about fifty head of cattle and generally raising about 100 hogs each year.



James T. Amis

His principal crops are corn and oats, a greater portion of which is consumed on the farm.

On Feb. 15, 1872, Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Miss Vienna Catherine Hawes, daughter of Daniel and Louisa (Miller) Hawes, both of whom came from Pennsylvania to this county, locating first in Danville and afterward removing to a farm near Rossville. Mrs. Miller is a native of Pennsylvania, her birth occurring on Nov. 7, 1852. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are the parents of eight children, one died in infancy and the rest are at home and are named as follows: Louisa Catherine, Andrew D,, Samuel J., Mary E., George H., Elsie May, and Annie Maud. Mr. Miller belongs to the young enterprising and progressive class of farmers and is deservedly achieving success. Almost his entire life has been spent on the place which he now lives and he is known by every one in this section of the country, being as widely respected as he is known. He has held several township offices and is at present Highway Commissioner.

MRS. NANCY AMIS. It can hardly be questioned that women, although called, with reason or without, the weaker half of humanity, have always done a full share of the world's work. In the opening up of the Great West, especially worthy of note is the part that has been taken by the wives and daughters of the pioneers who have cleared the timber and plowed the prairie. Here as elsewhere the co-operation of husband and wife has produced some of the best results of modern civilization, homes which are the seat of intelligence and refinement, a society where good morals are the rule, not the exception. One of these true helpmates is the subject of the sketch now before us, the widow of Mr. James T. Amis—late resident of Danville Township, a man of character and integrity—and the daughter of Abraham Hessey, of Virginia. It is said that the father of Mr. Hessey came to America from Ireland when a young man, the vessel in which he sailed being wrecked and he being one of the few passengers saved. Settling in Cooke County, Va., he there spent the remainder of his days. His son Abraham lived in Virginia till the death of his parents, and then moved to Nelson County, Ky. and bought a tract of wooded land, a part of which was in a state of cultivation, and a comfortable log-cabin, his home as long as he lived. Here our subject was born. Her mother, whose maiden name was Sarah McCormick, was a native of Nelson County, Ky., daughter of Andrew McCormick, a pioneer of that county from Ohio.

Nancy Hessey was six years old when her mother died and fifteen when her father's death occurred. Mr. Hessey having contracted a second marriage, she was brought up by a step-mother, and became accomplished in the housewifely arts of the period, learning to spin both wool and flax. Her cards and spinning wheel are still preserved as precious mementos of early days. In 1853 her brother, Andrew Hessey, being out of health and a change of climate being considered desirable, she came with him to Illinois, accompanying a family, who, in the absence of railways, were making the journey with a team. Her first home in this State was with her cousin, William Hessey, in Pilot Township. Being a prairie, this region had not been settled as early as some other parts, and was still but partially reclaimed from the wilderness; deer yet roamed at will. The marriage of Nancy Hessey and James T. Amis took place Sept. 16, 1855.

Mr. Amis was born in Hardin County, Ky., June 18, 1831. His parents, William and Fanny (Davis) Amis, natives of Tennessee, were early settlers of Hardin County, and later of Vermillion County, Ind. Mr. Amis was a young man when his parents removed to Indiana, and he there grew to maturity and was educated in the pioneer schools. He came to this county in 1853, and settling in Pilot Township, lived there till 1868, when he bought the present family home in Danville. When he came here the estate was but little improved. He labored diligently and successfully in reclaiming and cultivating the land, and in 1883 built a fine brick house in a modern style of architecture. The place is now one of the best improved in the township and a monument to his wise forethought and untiring industry. He continued a resident there till his death June 8, 1884.

Mr. Amis was a man of exemplary habits and of sound judgment, a kind husband and father, an obliging neighbor, a good citizen, and respected by all who knew him. He was a member of the United Brethren Church in Pilot Township, as was also his wife, a woman, be it said, in every way worthy of such noble companionship. The homestead is now occupied by Mrs. Amis and her four children—Hania Edward, William D., James A., and Lizzie Hessey.

A portrait of the late husband of Mrs. Amis appears on another page of this work and will be highly valued by those with whom he was wont to associate, but from among whom he has now gone forever.

THOMAS WILLIAMS. The fact of a man being well spoken of by those with whom he has spent the greater part of his life is a sufficient indication of his character, and thus Mr. Williams may be mentioned as a representative of the best elements of his community—a man of the strictest integrity and one who, by a life of industry, and the exercise of economy and a wise judgment has obtained for himself a competence. He is now living retired from active labor, in a pleasant home at Hoopeston. He settled in this town during its infancy and has been one of those who assisted the most largely in giving to it its present importance.

The first nineteen years of the life of our subject were spent in Harrison County, Ohio, where he was born Nov. 29, 1828. He acquired his education in the common school and lived with his widowed mother until the age mentioned, when with the natural desire of youth for change, he left home and went to work for his uncle, Thomas Hoopes, in Marion County, Ohio. (A sketch of Mr. Hoopes appears elsewhere in this ALBUM). He worked by the month for his uncle Thomas seven years, and then taking 400 sheep on the shares, he started on foot and drove them through from Marion County, Ohio, to Hoopeston, this county, a distance of 400 miles, being thirty days on the road. He reached his destination Oct. 20, 1853, and made his home that first winter with old "Uncle" Samuel Gilbert. He spent the time looking after his sheep, feeding them down in the timber, and in the spring went on to a farm owned by Mr. Hoopes, on section 11, northwest of the present site of the town. At that time the nearest house was two and one-half miles south, on the farm which our subject now owns, and the next one was eight miles north; so there was no one but himself and a hand to keep the wolves away from the sheep, although his dogs would chase the wolves for a short distance; then the latter would run the dogs back to the house, so Mr. Williams had to be on his guard all through the day and at night sleep with one eye open, although he had a wolf-proof pound for his sheep at night.

Mr. Williams thus operated for two years and the second winter his flock was increased by the addition of 400 more. The bad weather and the rattle snakes, however, made sad havoc with his live-stock and he was obliged to turn his attention in another direction. He purchased five yoke of oxen, together with a breaking plow, and followed breaking for three years, being usually able to make $100 per month in the summer time. When the weather was suitable he could turn an eighteen or twenty-inch furrow. In the meantime he preempted 160 acres of land in Iroquois County. This he lived upon a short time, effecting considerable improvement prior to his marriage.

The above interesting event in the life of our subject took place on the 9th of June, 1859, the bride being Miss Lavina McFarland of Iroquuis County, Ill. Mr. Williams about this time put up a small frame house and added to it a house standing near, thus forming quite a comfortable abode for those times and which the newly wedded pair occupied until Christmas. About that time they removed to a farm in the vicinity of Hoopeston, the same on which Mr. Williams had first herded his sheep. He rented this until 1863 and later purchasing seventy-five head of cattle, established himself southeast of what is now the town, where he lived on the creek about six years. Then he purchased the Churchill Boardman farm, consisting of 500 acres, and which was partially improved.

Our subject now began stock-raising in earnest,

and prosecuted this industry until the construction of the railroad through this section, after which he engaged more generally in farming. In 1870 he met with an accident which resulted in the breaking of his leg and accordingly leaving the farm, he took up his abode in Hoopeston, where he commenced buying grain and operated the elevators in partnership with A. T. Catherwood. He was thus occupied for a period of seven years, the last two years operating with twelve different elevators, then retired from active business. During these years, he became the half owner of 1,525 acres of land, near Ambia, in Benton County, Ind., which is now largely devoted to the raising of grain, 1,000 acres alone being planted in corn and 250 acres in oats. Mr. Williams visits this farm every week in summer, while Mr. Catherwood attends to it during the winter season. See sketch.

Mr. Williams keeps himself well posted upon current events and gives his political support to the Republican party. Socially, he is a Knight Templar and in religious matters a member of the Universalist Church. Upon first coming to Hoopeston he purchased ground on Second street, where he lived four years and later purchased property at the corner of Penn and Fifth streets, where he has resided for the past six years. He was the first man in company with others to experiment with the sugar cane here and later became interested in the canning factory, putting up the corn produced from 900 acres the first year, but only prosecuted this two seasons.

Miss Lavina McFarland of Marion County, Ohio, became the wife of our subject, June 9, 1859. She was the daughter of Andrew and Sarah McFarland, who in 1857 removed to Illinois and settled in Iroquois County where Mrs. Williams lived under the parental roof until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born six children, of whom only three are living—Charles C., Walter W. and Frank. The first mentioned is occupied as a bookkeeper at Omaha, Neb.; the others remain at home and will be given the educational advantages suitable to their position in life.

Nathan Williams, the father of our subject, was born in Bedford County, Pa., and when a young man emigrated to Harrison County, Ohio, where he taught school two years. He had prior to this learned the tailor's trade. In Ohio he purchased a tract of land near Georgetown from which he constructed a good farm. He married Miss Sarah, daughter of Nathan Hoopes. Ten children came to bless this union, of whom Thomas, our subject, was the fifth in order of birth. The father died when a comparatively young man, in 1841. The mother kept her home in Ohio until the children were grown to mature years, then, although retaining her property there, she came to the home of her son in this county, where her death took place in 1881, when she was seventy-nine years old, having been born in 1802. She, like her husband, was a member of the Society of Friends.

JAMES M. STINE, Postmaster of Fairmount, is without question the most popular man in this community. The fact that his appointment as Postmaster was endorsed by two of the Democratic papers in 1889, he being a Republican, is sufficient indication of the estimation in which he is held by his fellow-citizens. His early educational advantages were limited, but good sense and energy have proved his valuable stock in trade. Under favorable circumstances he might have made for himself a reputation in the literary field, as he has been a frequent contributor both of prose and poetry to the local press. He took a conspicuous part in the late Civil War, and among other duties commanded the flatboat which carried the rock to build the dam constructed by Col. Bailey in the Red River, to float down the gunboats at the time of Banks' expedition up that river. His career has been essentially that of a self-made man, who in early life was thrown upon his own resources and whose experience served to develop within him a most admirable character.

Our subject comes of excellent stock, being the son of John and Mary (Winn) Stine, who were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Virginia. They became residents of Ohio in their youth, and were married in Muskingum County, that State,

where they lived until 1865. Thence they came to this county and settled in the vicinity of Danville, where the father prosecuted farming and died in 1871. The mother preceded her husband to the silent grave, dying in 1870. Their household included ten children, five of whom are still living and making their homes mostly in Illinois.

The subject of this sketch was the seventh child of his parents, and was born April 26, 1843, in Muskingum County, Ohio. He learned what he could in the common schools prior to the outbreak of the Civil War, and made a visit to Illinois in 1860, working in this county on a farm for about one year. Then, returning to Ohio, he, in September, 1861, enlisted as a Union soldier in Company D, 16th Ohio Infantry, which was organized in Wooster and soon afterward proceeded to the South. Young Stine was then but eighteen years old, but he performed all the soldierly duties of a full-grown man, and engaged in all the battles in which his regiment participated, being at Cumberland Gap, Tazewell, Tenn., Chicasaw Bayou, Port Gibson, Raymond, Champion Hills, Black River, the siege of Vicksburg; was at Jackson, Miss., and in the Red River expedition. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he was mustered out with his comrades at Morganza Bend, in October, 1864. Although experiencing many hairbreadth escapes, he came out without a scratch, and remained at home that winter. In the spring of 1865, being unable to content himself at home while many of his comrades were still fighting in the field, he enlisted a second time, in Company B, 196th Ohio Infantry, and went with his regiment to the Shenandoah Valley, remaining there until the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. Soon afterward they repaired to Baltimore, and thence to Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio, where the regiment was mustered out in October, 1865.

Upon leaving the army the second time, Mr. Stine joined his parents in this county, and on the 12th of August, 1866, was married to Miss Eliza Bates, a daughter of Joel Bates, one of the pioneer settlers of Danville Township. Mrs. Stine has an uncle, James O'Neal, who was the first male white child born in this county, and who now resides six miles south of Danville. Mr. Stine worked on a farm for two years after his marriage; then, in 1870, removing to Kentucky, was a resident of the Blue Grass State for the following six years. We next find him in St. Louis, Mo., where he was engineer in a rolling-mill for one year. His next removal was to this county, of which he has since remained a resident. For the last four years he has been a butter-maker in the creamery at Fairmount.

To our subject and his estimable wife there were born five children, only one of whom is living, a daughter, Mary Belle, who was born Oct. 5, 1876. Miss Mary is an apt scholar in the High School at Fairmount, and possesses more than ordinary musical talent, being a fine performer on the violin. They have a very pleasant and comfortable home, situated in the west part of the town, and enjoy the friendship of a large circle of acquaintances. Mr. Stine has taken an active part in political matters, and is familiarly known as "Old Baldy No. 2." He was a member of the Republican Central Committee during the late campaign, has been Village Trustee two years, and the second year was President of the Board. As an ex-soldier he was a member of the G. A. R. Post, which was disbanded in 1888, and of which he was Post Commander one year. Both he and Mrs. Stine are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the daughter is prominently connected with the Sunday-school. The family is well known throughout Vance Township, and are amply worthy of representatation in a work of this kind.

GUSTAVUS C. PEARSON was born in Ravenna, Portage Co., Ohio, July 17, 1827. His father, the Hon John Pearson, was born in Avon, N. Y., Jan. 23, 1802. The Pearsons are descendants of the Rev. Abraham Pearson of Yorkshire, England and came to America in 1639, and whose son, also Abraham Pearson, was the first President of Yale College.

The grandfather of Gustavus went from Ellington, Conn., to New York State, when a young man and was married in Schenectady, Jan. 4, 1789, to

Rebecca (Waterous) Hull. He located in Duanesburg, where he lived on patent land until 1796. He then concluded to build a home which he could call his own, where the fee of the land could be obtained and free of all incumbrance, and therefore went to the wilds of Western New York and located at Hartford (now Avon), in company with his mother-in-law, Canada, purchasing 400 acres of land there. He first erected a log cabin but later built the first frame house in the neighborhood, which was called "John's Industry and Rebecca's Economy." He brought a grindstone with him in to the country which the Indians soon found would sharpen their tomahawks. Knowing the fear of the family, they would strike the hatchets into the logs and give an Indian whoop. They however became civil and docile afterwards. He also built a store and engaged extensively in mercantile pursuits. This was long before there were either railroads or canals, and his goods which were bought in the city of New York and Philadelphia, were transported by pack horses. He used to take cattle, horses and sheep in exchange for goods, and these he drove to market at Philadelphia or New York, the journey occupying from four to six weeks. His death occurred in Avon, Dec. 23, 1812, while his wife survived him many years, dying in Vernon Township, Pa., Dec. 10, 1861, lacking but three years of rounding out a full century.

The father of Gustavus, the Hon. John Pearson, was graduated from Princeton College in September, 1824, when he began the study of law with the Hon. George Hosmer, at West Avon. He was admitted to the bar at Ravenna, Ohio, in the spring of 1832, from which place he went to Detroit, Mich., and took passage on a sailing vessel bound for Chicago. Maj. Whistler then commandant of Ft. Dearborn was a friend of the Pearsons, and invited them into the fort where the family remained while the father started out to seek a location, as Chicago was then considered unsafe on account of the Indians. In the month of July of that year, the first steamer that ever floated on Lake Michigan, landed at Chicago, bringing Gen. Scott's troops and an unwelcome visitor, the cholera. Mr. Pearson soon removed his family to Danville on account of there being a company of rangers stationed there which seemed to insure safety for the settlers. In 1836, he was elected Presidential elector on the Van Buren ticket and was selected as messenger to return the vote of Illinois to Washington City. During the same year he was elected Circuit Judge and removed his residence to Joliet. His circuit included all of Cook, Will, DuPage, Kane, DeKalb, and other contiguous counties. He held the office of Judge until he was elected State Senator. In 1849, he went to California, making the journey across the plains. He, however, did not make a lengthy stop there, but returned East locating in New York City, where he practiced law for a time. He shortly returned to Chicago and thence to Danville, where he had large real estate interests, and here resided until his death, which occurred in June, 1875.

Judge Pearson, the father of the subject of this sketch, in his day did more for the upbuilding of Danville than any other man. To people who would agree to build on lots, he gave them away, a policy which showed great wisdom. Judge Pearson will remain in the memories of many people as an upright and able man. His kindness to the poor was proverbial.

Judge Pearson was twice married. The maiden name of his first wife, and the mother of Gustavus, was Catherine Tiffany, daughter of Judge George S. Tiffany. She was a native of New York and her death took place June 4, 1842. She was the mother of three children, Gustavus being the eldest, and Elizabeth who is the wife of Col. William C. McReynolds. George is deceased. The second wife of Judge Pearson was Catherine Passage, of Princeton, N. J. She became the mother of two children: Fannie, wife of Dr. Morehouse of Danville, and Hattie, wife of Mr. Knox, of St. Paul, Minn.

Gustavus C. Pearson, of whom this sketch is written, is in every sense of the word an old settler. He came to Illinois with his parents when not five years old, and he recalls the incidents occurring during the residence of the family at Ft. Dearborn, the Indian dances and the cholera scare, which caused a temporary depopulation of the fort. He attended the pioneer schools of Danville and later the Jubilee College in Peoria County. He

also attended at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa., from which place he went to New York and clerked in a store for a short time, afterward returning to Danville, where he began the study of law with Judge McRoberts. This occupied one year, when he went to Joliet and engaged with Gov. Matteson as clerk, and by hard work became, in course of time, general manager of his business, and so valuable were young Pearson's services, that Gov. Matteson offered him the profits of a one-half interest in the business, without capital, if young Pearson would remain in his position and not go to California. Here he remained until 1849, when he started for California, having fitted out one team with three yoke of oxen, with others. In their journey across the plains they encountered vast herds of buffalo and especially in the vicinity of where Lincoln, Neb., is now situated. Guards were mounted every night after crossing the Missouri River. Along this dreary and lonely route every variety of personal property was scattered, from St. Joseph to California, by emigrants going to the Eldorado. At Salt Lake City, where the Mormons had settled, the party was induced by Brigham Young and others to stop, it being represented by the great apostle that the surrounding country was fully as rich in minerals as California. They accordingly staid there about three months, when Brigham declared that those Gentiles who would not unite with the Mormon Church should leave at once for California, and that in going they should make themselves useful to the the Mormons by opening a new trail. Young knew that it was too late for them to go by the Northern or Humboldt route, and thought to make them useful to his own people. Thus the party was obliged to start and make their way 600 miles across a country without any trail. Mr. Pearson's wagon was the first one that ever went through Cahon Pass on wheels, but prior to reaching this Pass, his party, composed of ten young men who had left their teams at Armagosa or Bitter Waters, traversed a desert of 113 miles, arriving at Prudom's Ranch in an almost famished condition. Capt. Hunt had the previous year gone through the Pass eastward, but had taken his wagon to pieces, and packed it on the backs of mules. The party stopped at Prudom's Ranch for a few weeks and from there went to Los Angeles, thence to San Pedro, where they embarked in a sailing vessel, and arriving at San Francisco pitched their tent on the beach. A number of the company had perished en route. At this period San Francisco was composed of a few adobe houses and a great many tents. The party remained there a few weeks, when Mr. Pearson went to the mining regions and engaged in digging for gold until 1852, and the money thus accumulated was, in 1850, sent to Pennsylvania and loaned at six per cent. He then returned home by the Nicaragua route. In 1853 he again visited California, and established the first grape ranch on the red lands, southeast of Sacramento; this land is since celebrated as the best vineyard land in the State, and among the finest in the United States. The land was then declared worthless by the Spanish and Gen. Sutter. During the summer of 1855, the weather was so dry that mining was neither pleasant nor profitable, so Mr. Pearson in company with nine others, formed a party and started on a hunting expedition. It was this company that first explored and laid claim to the Yosemite Valley and made its wondrous beauties known to the world. Mr. Pearson returned East, and in 1859, commenced operating on the Board of Trade in Chicago, which he continued until 1869, when he went again to California, and in Vallejo erected the first elevator ever built on the Chicago plan in that State. He was also associated with A. D. Starr, as Pearson & Starr, in building flouring-mills at South Vallejo, which are at the present time the largest in the world, having a capacity of 9,000 barrels a day. He remained a resident of California, and aided in establishing the San Francisco Board of Trade, but in the year 1880 returned to Danville, where he has since lived, retired from active life. He erected a beautiful residence on the land which his father purchased in 1834.

Mr. Pearson was married Sept. 13, 1864, to Hattie P. Brown, daughter of the Hon. William and Mary J. (Pearson) Brown, natives of New York State. Her father was a resident of Ogdensburg, where he was for many years County Judge, and was always prominently identified with the up-

building of that city, where he spent his last years. Mr. and Mrs. Pearson have three children: John A., Frances N., and Nomen N.

Mr. and Mrs. Pearson are members of the Holy Trinity (Episcopal) Church. Mr. Pearson has always been greatly interested in public affairs and in politics has ever been arrayed against the monopolists. He was largely instrumental in organizing the Grange Revolution in California, of which he was a prominent member for many years. He drafted the California Warehouse law, and succeeded in having it passed after ten years of persistent effort, which regulated warehouses, and makes their receipts available for business purposes. The entire grain trade of the Pacific Coast had been controlled until then by an individual operator. He has been a contributor to the *Journal of Commerce*, in Chicago, and also the *Pacific Rural Press*, and other newspapers. Mr. Pearson has attained high success as a business man, and this can be attributed to his strict probity and his sagacity. In 1880, he returned to Danville for the purpose of educating his children. Our subject is a member of the Old Settler's Society of Chicago, and is also numbered among the pioneers of California, being one of the settlers of '49.

JOHN W. BREWER, a prominent citizen of Vermilion County, was born in the city of Danville July 7, 1837. His father, William Brewer, was one of the pioneers of this county, and was born in Virginia or Ohio. The grandfather of John W., whose name was John Brewer, was a native of Pennsylvania, and of Dutch ancestry, the name being formerly spelled Brower. The latter moved from Pennsylvania to Virginia, and thence to Ohio, where he spent his last years in Miami County. William Brewer, the father of the subject of this sketch, was reared in Ohio, and when a young man started for the West, going to Lafayette, Ind., and there married. In about 1832 he came to Vermilion County, locating in Danville. Soon after coming here he entered Government land, which was situated in Danville and Newell Townships; part of this land is now included in the city of Danville. Early in manhood he had learned the cabinet-maker's trade, and after coming to Danville, he labored as a carpenter, and has the honor of being the builder of the first frame house erected in the city. The timbers were hewn, and the weather boards rived or split, by hand. He resided here until 1840, when he removed to Clay County, where he lived eight years, then returned to this county. His death occurred in 1857 in Newell township. The maiden name of his second wife, and the mother of John W., was Sarah Switzer, a native of Ohio and daughter of Peter and Mary Switzer, natives of Pennsylvania. She was married a second time to H. B. Current.

John W. Brewer had five brothers and one sister who lived to maturity: Mary A. married W. H. Rodrick; she is now deceased. Abraham lives in Danville; Richard is a resident of Oakwood Township, while Peter and Isaac are deceased. John W. attended the pioneer schools of this county in the old-fashioned log school-houses, furnished with primitive seats and desks. The benches were constructed by splitting small logs, hewing one side, and inserting wooden pins for legs. The method of securing an education in those early days, compared to that of these times, is a practical illustration of the march of civilization in the nineteenth century. He resided with his parents until his father's death, when he learned the carpenter's trade, in which business he had received previous instructions from his father. Immediately after his marriage he located on the farm that he now owns and occupies. This contains 180 acres of well-improved land, the greater part being located in Danville Township, about five miles from the city. He was first married in 1858, to Harriet Kester. She was born in Ohio, and died in 1862, leaving one child, George. His second marriage, which occurred in 1867, was to Sarah Oliver, a native of Vermilion County, and a daughter of John and Elizabeth Oliver. Of this union there are seven children: Albert Frank, Edmund, Perry, Ben, Effie, Clara and Ettie.

Mr. Brewer is a member of the Pleasant Grove United Brethren Church, of which he has been Steward one year. He has always taken an interest

in educational affairs, and has served as Clerk of the School Board. Mr. Brewer is one of the substantial and reliable citizens of his neighborhood. In politics, he is a stanch Democrat.

WILLIAM KELLY, a talented business man and able financier, is classed among the foremost citizens of this part of Vermilion County. He is a coal operator, and is also extensively engaged in farming and stock raising, owning and personally superintending a large farm on section 2, Danville Township. Here he has one of the finest country seats in Illinois, comprising a handsome and commodious brick residence of a modern and pleasing style of architecture, tastefully furnished and replete with all the comforts and luxuries that make life worth living, with grounds around it beautifully and artistically laid out. The representation of such a beautiful home as this is certainly a pleasing and attractive addition to a book of this character and will be appreciated by all readers.

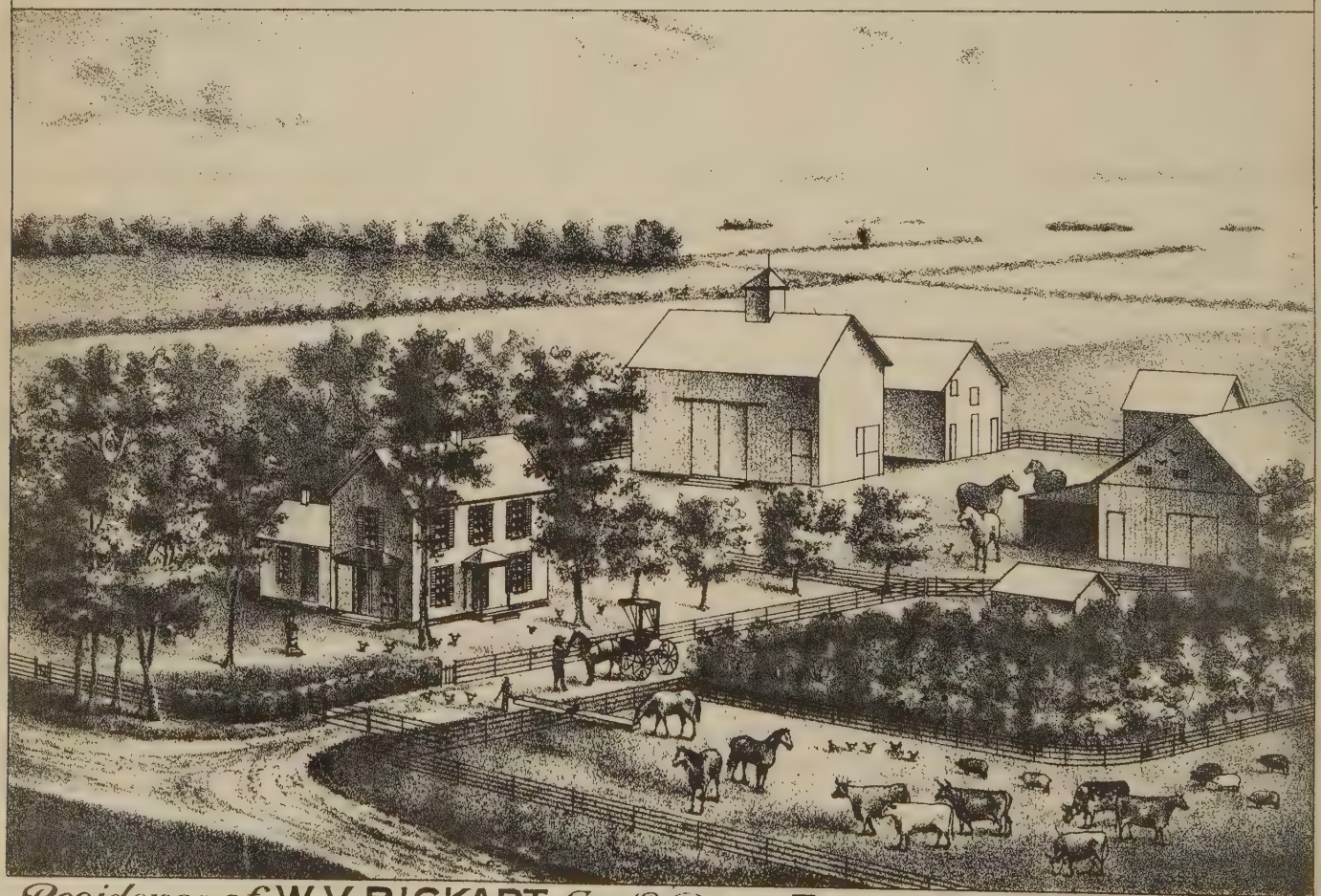
Mr. Kelly was born in County Meath, Ireland, Nov. 1, 1842. His father Michael and his grandfather, Bernard Kelly, the latter a farmer, were life-long residents of the same county, the father dying in Dec. 23, 1888. The maiden name of the grandmother, a native of the same county, was Shaw. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Kate Glennan, also a native of County Meath, and there she died in 1859. There were eleven children in the family of the parents of our subject, nine of whom grew to maturity, and five of them came to the United States, as follows: Michael; Kate, who married Morace Mitchell; Margaret, who married Thomas Gerahty; Ann, who married Edward Oaks; all are residents of Danville.

The subject of this biography was reared in his native land, and when eighteen years of age the intelligent, ambitious youth determined to see what life held for him in the United States of America, the goal of so many of his countrymen, and going to Liverpool he embarked in a vessel bound for these shores, and landed in New York City after an uneventful voyage. He had about $30 in cash at that time, his only capital with which to begin life in a new country. He went to Westchester County, N. Y., and there did his first work on American soil, finding employment on a farm at $12 a month. Six months after that he made his way to Vermilion County, and the ensuing nine months worked in Danville, and then, with characteristic enterprise embarked in business on his own account as a coal operator by leasing a bank. The first few months he did all the work himself, but was so successful in his venture from a pecuniary standpoint that he was soon enabled to employ men, and is still carrying on the business, often having as many as thirty men at work. In 1873 Mr. Kelly turned his attention in another direction, desiring to expend some of his superfluous energies in agricultural pursuits, and he purchased in that year the farm which is still in his possession and under his management. It contains 400 acres of choice land, under splendid cultivation and yielding large harvests, and amply supplied with roomy, conveniently arranged buildings, including his handsome residence which he erected in 1888, and has all the modern machinery and appliances for facilitating farm labors. Mr. Kelly raises stock quite extensively, and has fine herds of blooded cattle, horses and hogs.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Elizabeth Tyrall was solemnized in 1864. She is a native of County Meath, Ireland, and a daughter of Garrett Tyrall. She is a woman of fine character and warm heart, and unites with her husband in making their beautiful home attractive to their many friends or to the stranger within their gates, by a genial, gracious hospitality. Their pleasant household circle is completed by the seven children born unto them, namely: Kate, Margaret, Lizzie, Annie, Emma, Lulu, Bertie.

Mr. Kelly is a distinguished representative of our self-made men whose industrious, methodical, business-like habits, combined with a steadfast purpose and great executive talent, have led them on to fortune. It is to such men of large enterprise and liberal spirit that Vermilion County is indebted for her high standing as a prosperous,

Residence of F. M. OLEHY, *Sec. 10. Danville Township, Vermilion County.*



Residence of W. V. RICKART. *Sec. 8. Ross Township, Vermilion County.*

wealthy community, with flourishing agricultural, mining, manufacturing, and commercial interests. Our subject possesses great weight and influence in this locality, where he is looked up to as a wise, far sighted, noble minded citizen, and his hand is felt in all schemes that are in any way calculated to benefit the township or county.

WILSON V. RICKART. There are few homesteads in this county more attractive or more valuable than that owned by the subject of this sketch. Without ostentation or any great amount of display, it is the synonym of comfort and plenty, with all the evidences of cultivated tastes and the refinements of modern life. The large and well cultivated farm has been brought to its present condition only by the exercise of the most unflagging industry, together with wise judgment and economy, which has enabled the proprietor to invest his capital where it would yield the best returns. He is widely and favorably known as a skillful and progressive farmer, prompt in his business transactions and in all respects a valued member of his community.

Next in importance to a man's own personality is the record of those from whom he drew his origin. The father of our subject was John Rickart and his paternal grandfather was Leonard Rickart, the latter probably a native of North Carolina. It is known that John Rickart was born in that State and was one of five brothers, all of whom signalized themselves as efficient soldiers in the War of 1812. They, however, became separated during the vicissitudes of that war and never met again. John emigrated to Ohio when a young man and was married in Butler County to Miss Nancy Clem, a native of Kentucky. His parents also removed to Ohio, where they spent their last days.

Twelve children completed the household circle of John Rickart and his excellent wife, eight of whom were born in Ohio: Susan married William Allen and came with her husband to this county at an early day, where her death took place about 1850; Mary J. became the wife of George Copeland and also died in this county; Lucinda married Resa M. Davis, and resides in this county; Julia A. is the wife of T. B. Bleevens, of this county; Leonard is deceased; Nancy is the wife of Charles Howard, and they live in Labette County, Kan.; Maria is the wife of Robert D. Kinman, of Potomac, this county. These, with Wilson V., our subject, were natives of the Buckeye State. The younger children, Jacob, Frances M., Samuel C. and Elmira, were born in this county. The latter died at the age of sixteen years.

The parents of our subject came to Illinois in the fall of 1838, making the trip overland by team and located in Blount Township about nine miles northwest of Danville. The father purchased of a Mr. Skinner a tract of land upon which some improvements had been made and built up a good home, where he and his estimable wife spent their last days. He was very successful as a tiller of the soil and the old home farm was considered one of the best in that region. The mother departed this life in November, 1871, when about sixty-six years old. Mr. Rickart survived his wife less than a year, dying in June, 1872, at the age of seventy-two. They were people honest and upright and enjoyed the highest respect of all who knew them.

The subject of our sketch distinctly remembers that at the time of coming to this county deer, wolves and other wild animals were plentiful, so that whatever else the family larder lacked they always had an abundance of wild meats. During his boyhood days the nearest market was at Chicago, which was then an unimportant village. On his first trip to the place in company with a party of neighbors, they encamped the first night near the present site of Hoopeston, and the wolves came and howled within thirty steps of their camp, keeping them awake by their noise, but doing no further damage than to frighten them considerably. When family needed a fresh supply of provisions they would kill a hog of about 200 pounds weight, selling it for whatever they could get, sometimes $10 and sometimes $5, and calculated that this must furnish them with groceries for the year. On his first trip to Chicago young Rickart took a load of wheat, and when within forty miles of the place

met a party of men returning who reported wheat worth $1 per bushel. The day following it was quoted at fifty cents. Upon his arrival there the price had risen a little again and he obtained fifty-five cents. There were then three elevators in operation, but others were in process of construction. There was only one street south of the river and none of the streets were paved. A wagon would sink in the sand and mud to the depth of about eight inches.

About eight years later Mr. Rickart hauled grain to Chicago, when there was about seven miles of town south of the river. A hotel had been built several miles south on the open prairie, where drovers stopped over night and their cattle grazed upon the prairie grass. Upon his second trip Mr. Rickart found the city had extended to a point near the hotel. After the building of the railroad to Danville there was a good market at that place, and farm produce was accordingly shipped there.

One of the most important events in the life of our subject was his marriage, which occurred Dec. 29, 1859, in Blount Township, this county, with Miss Hester A., daughter of Josiah and Hannah (Watkins) Crawford. Mrs. Rickart was born in Hocking County, Ohio, November, 1836. Her parents were natives respectively of Virginia and Maryland, whence they removed to Ohio prior to their marriage. Thence in 1838 they came to this county, locating not far from the home of the Rickart family. They likewise opened up a farm from the wilderness, and there the mother died, March 24, 1860, at the age of forty-seven years. Mr. Crawford is still living at the old homestead. Five of their ten children are also living: Sarah J. married Vinton Lane, of this county; William, Hester A. and Benjamin are the next in order of birth; Mary L. married William Blankenship, of this county; Minerva died at the age of fourteen years; Samuel, James, Elmira and Lucinda died prior to the decease of the mother. The latter was a lady of many estimable qualities and a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. and Mrs. Rickart belong to the United Brethren Church.

The Rickart homestead comprises 560 acres of land, which was chiefly wild and uncultivated when coming into the possession of our subject. Under his careful management it has become exceedingly fertile, yielding him a handsome income. He settled upon it in the spring of 1860, and for many years has made a specialty of stock-raising, chiefly cattle. He uniformly votes the Democrat ticket and has held the various township offices, including that of Constable and Commissioner of Highways. The first school attended by our subject was taught in a little frame house by Miss Emma Palmer, of Danville, and conducted on the subscription plan. The next teacher was Samuel Humphrey, who subsequently studied medicine and conducted a drug store in Danville, where he practiced and died several years later. Another teacher whom Mr. Rickart remembers was a Mr. Robison, an old sailor. Later Elder William Webster, who now lives in Danville, officiated as the first pedagogue under the free school law. The prairie grass in those days grew to a height of five or six feet, and the yellow blossoms of the weeds would frequently hide a team and wagon completely out of sight. Mr. and Mrs. Rickart have only two children living, Hattie J. and Ella V. The first mentioned is the wife of John V. Lane, and they live at the homestead. The second child, Emma C., died at the age of six years. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Rickart, William Crawford, was a soldier in the War of 1812. Grandfather William Watkins hired a substitute for the same war.

We take pleasure in inviting the attention of readers to a fine view of the country residence of Mr. and Mrs. Rickart on another page of the volume.

F. M. OLEHY. On section 10, Danville Township, about a mile outside of the corporate limits of the city, lies one of the finest farms in this part of the county, owned by the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. He is a native of Vermilion County, born in this township May 3, 1837, and a son of one of its early pioneers.

His father, Dennis Olehy, was of Irish descent and born near Portsmouth, Ohio. He was

quite young when his parents died so that nothing is known of their history. He was reared in his native State to a sturdy, self-reliant manhood, married, and resided there until 1830. He then started for the far West, journeying with a team to Vermilion County, and here made a claim to a tract of land in what is now Danville Township. The greater part of the land in this State was then in the hands of the Government. Indians still lingered around their old haunts, deer and other wild game were plentiful in the then sparsely settled country which showed but few signs of the coming civilization. Mr. Olehy erected a pole shanty as a temporary shelter for his family, and they lived in it till he could put up a round log house, the same in which the subject of this sketch was born. The father continued to live on his homestead till his demise, which occurred March 2, 1877. He occupied an honorable place among the brave, self-sacrificing pioneers of the county, and left to his children the precious legacy of a life well-spent. The maiden name of his wife, mother of our subject, was Elizabeth Glaze, she was of German descent, and is supposed to have been born in Ohio, a daughter of John Glaze, a pioneer of Vermilion County. Her death took place on the old homestead in 1845.

Dennis Olehy, the father of our subject, was twice married; his first wife was Elizabeth Glaze, by whom he had seven children, viz: Nancy became the wife of Joseph Martin, she is now deceased; Rachel, wife of John Q. Villars; Mary A., wife of Martin Current; F. M., our subject; Isaac Newton, (deceased), married Sarah Emily; James died when a boy; Perry died in the army while serving as a Union soldier of the late war.

After the death of his first wife Dennis Olehy married Sarah Ann Jones, by whom he had ten children. Those who lived to maturity are—Jane married Henry Olehy; Adeline married Marion Fagins; Elizabeth married Herbert Hall; Martha married Job Marble; Ruth A., deceased, married Thomas Hathaway; Joshua married Rosa Belle Jones; Ellen married John Marble, and is deceased; Alice married Sherman Waits; Martin and William died when they were small boys.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the primitive pioneer schools of the early days of the settlements of Illinois, which with their rude slab benches, dirt and stick chimneys with open fireplaces for heating purposes, were not much like the fine educational institutions where the youth of to-day are trained. As soon as he was able to shoulder a gun he took pleasure in hunting and he shot several deer in the course of his boyhood. He assisted on the farm, living at home till his marriage, and occasionally accompanied his father to the nearest markets at Perrysville, Compton or Lafayette, on the Wabash River, quite a distance from home, with produce, and once in a while he made a trip to Chicago, 125 miles distant. He continued to live in Danville Township for a time after marriage, then went to Warren County, Ind., where he rented land, and also leased some land near Burr Oak Grove. In 1868, he returned to this place with his family and located on the farm that he now owns. This homestead comprises 190 acres of choice land, whose finely tilled fields yield a handsome return in repayment of the labor and care spent upon it. It is furnished with a good set of frame buildings which he has erected and he has otherwise greatly increased the value of his property since it came into his possession.

Mr. Olehy and Miss Minerva J. Martin were united in marriage Sept. 9, 1858, and they have four children living, namely: Mary the wife of John Villars, of Champaign County, Ill.; William D.; Albert and Minnie are at home with their parents; George M., died at the age of about four months. Mrs. Olehy's father, George Martin, was born in Beaver County, Ohio, near Georgetown, Oct. 18, 1809. His father, Hudson Martin, was a native of Virginia, and his father, George Martin, Mrs. Olehy's great-grandfather, spent his entire life in that State. Hudson Martin moved to Ohio when a young man, and was married there to Martha Laycock, a native of Virginia, and a daughter of William Laycock, who moved from his native Virginia to Ohio among the first settlers of Brown County. He took up a tract of land there, improved a farm, and erected good buildings, only to find that he had labored for nothing as he lost his land by some one else having a prior claim. The maiden name of his wife was Harper, and she

came of an old Virginia family that owned Harper's Ferry and gave it its name. Mrs. Olehy's grandfather Hudson resided in Ohio many years, but subsequently moved to Ripley County, Ind., whence he came to Vermilion County in 1827, the removal being made with teams to bring the family and household goods, while the stock was driven along at the same time. He was one of the early settlers of the county, locating in what is now Newell Township, making a claim and entering land from the Government. Mr. Martin at once commenced the improvement of a farm, on which he resided many years. He finally sold it and moved to Washington, where his last years were spent. Mrs. Olehy's grandmother died at the home of her daughter in Newell Township.

Mrs. Olehy's father was in his eighteenth year when he came to this county with his parents, and can remember well the incidents of their early life here. Two years after coming here he returned to Indiana and engaged in boating on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers about four years. He then returned to Vermilion County and established himself as a farmer. He worked by the month or day for awhile, and at the time of marriage rented land, and later bought some, and was a resident here till 1875. In that year he went to California on account of ill health and was gone two years. He then came back to the old homestead, which is located in Danville Township, two miles from the court house. Feb. 23, 1837, was the date of his marriage with Miss Mary McKee. She was born in Fleming County, Ky., June 2, 1812. Her father William McKee, was born in Pennsylvania Jan. 18, 1783, and was a son of Guian McKee, who is supposed to have been a native of Scotland, whence he came to America in colonial times and served in the Revolutionary War. He located in Pennsylvania, and from there a few years after the Revolution he went to Kentucky and was a pioneer of Fleming County. He bought a tract of land, cleared a farm, and was a resident there till his death. Mrs. Martin's father was young when his parents removed to Kentucky, and there he was reared. He learned and followed the trade of a wheelwright some years, and then bought a tract of timber land and built a log house in which Mrs. Martin was born. In 1832, he sold out his property in his Kentucky home, and coming to Vermilion County, located on the place where Mr. and Mrs. Martin now reside. It consisted at that time of 160 acres of wild land, and he improved it into a good farm before his death, which occurred Feb. 21, 1872. The maiden name of his wife was Hester Adams. She was born either in Kentucky or Ohio Aug. 12, 1785, and died on the home farm here Dec. 1, 1866.

Mr. Olehy is a man of good habits and sterling principles, and is a credit to his native county. He is a hard worker and uses good judgment in the management of his affairs, so that he has acquired considerable property, and is numbered among the well-to-do citizens of the township. Politically, he associates with the Democratic party, and is an earnest supporter of its policy. A fine lithographic view of the handsome farm, residence and outbuildings of Mr. Olehy is shown on another page of this work, and we invite the reader's attention to the same.

HENRY J. OAKWOOD. It is said of this jovial, practical, genial and companionable gentleman that "he is the youngest looking old man you will find in six States,", and that "he has not a single enemy on earth." It is evident by this that, notwithstanding partial friends may look upon him through rose-colored glasses, he is a man of no ordinary stamp, and has exericised in a marked degree the rare qualities of discretion, good judgment and temperance of speech and action, which have gathered around him many warm personal friends. His business qualifications are fully equal to the other distinguishing traits of his character, he having been uniformly successful and accumulating a competence.

A native of the Buckeye State, Mr. Oakwood was born in Brown County, Ohio, March 7, 1819, and came with his parents to Illinois when a youth of fourteen years. His education was completed in Oakwood Township, in an old log school-house on the land which he now occupies, and later he taught school for three years in succession. In due time

he built a log cabin upon his own land, and commenced farming for himself. In 1850 he took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Abigail Smith, but the young wife only survived until the following year, dying in 1851, leaving one child. This child, a son, James, came to his death by drowning in the Middle Fork when four years old.

In 1852 Mr. Oakwood contracted a second marriage with Miss Priscilla Sailor, and continued to reside at the same place, which by degrees he added to, and is now the owner of 750 acres of land, all in Oakwood Township, which was organized after he came to this county, and was named in his honor. He was largely instrumental in founding the village of Oakwood, and contributed no small amount of money as an inducement to have it located upon its present site. He at one time owned the ground occupied by the south half of the town. He put up his present residence in 1877, and through his careful supervision and good management, he has one of the best regulated farms in this part of the county. Adjoining it on the east is the largest coal field in the State, belonging to the Consolidated Coal Company of St. Louis. The farm is largely devoted to stock-raising, Mr. Oakwood keeping about thirty head of cattle, forty head of horses and 100 head of swine, of excellent grades. Adjacent to the residence are the barns and various outbuildings, conveniently arranged for the shelter of stock and the storage of grain. The latest and most improved machinery is utilized in the cultivation of the land, and everything about the premises indicates the supervision of the thorough and progressive agriculturist. To our subject and his present wife there have been born nine children, one of whom died when about one month old. William, the eldest child living, married Miss Annie Longstreth, is the father of three children, and lives on a farm adjoining Oakwood on the northeast; Morgan married Miss Julia Trimmell, lives south of Oakwood, and has two children; Emma is the wife of Charles Smith, and the mother of one child; they live three miles northwest of Fithian. Thomas married Miss Etta Longstreth, is the father of two children, and lives a half mile west of the homestead; Mattie, Harvey, Charles and Stella remain at home with their parents. All the children of Mr. Oakwood have obtained a good education in the district school, being more than ordinarily bright and intelligent, and taking kindly to their books.

Both our subject and his estimable wife are church members, the former belonging to the Presbyterian and the latter to the Methodist, and their children attend Sunday-school regularly. Mr. Oakwood, politically, has been a stanch Republican since reaching his majority, and has officiated as Director in his school district for the long period of twenty-one years. He was Road Overseer six years, Commissioner of Highways seven years, and represented Oakwood Township in the County Board of Supervisors eight years. At peace with all mankind, enjoying good health, and in possession of a happy home and an intelligent family, it would seem that he has little more to ask for to make him contented with life.

The father of our subject was Henry Oakwood, a native of East Tennessee and a farmer by occupation. In early manhood he married Miss Margaret Remley, a native of Kentucky, and a daughter of Henry Remley, of Pennsylvania, who emigrated to the Blue Grass regions at an early period, and sojourned there the remainder of his life. Henry Oakwood took an active part in the War of 1812, was with Hull's army at the surrender of Detroit, as a member of the Kentucky Mounted Troops, under the command of Col. R. M Johnson. The parents were married in Kentucky, where they lived for a time afterward, then, removing to Ohio, purchased the farm and remained there until the fall of 1833. Then coming to this county, they settled on section 24, in what is now Oakwood Township, where they spent the remainder of their lives engaged in the peaceful occupation of farming. Indians encamped on the place now occupied by the subject of this sketch, for a year after the family came here.

The Oakwood family experienced all the privations and hardships of pioneer life upon coming to this county, being the first settlers in their neighborhood, before the time of railroads or even a well defined wagon track. Mr. Oakwood became the prominent man of his community, holding many of the offices, serving as Justice of the Peace

for a period of twelve years, and Township Treasurer for nearly the same length of time. After a life well spent he was gathered to his fathers, in 1854, at the age of sixty-six years. The mother survived her husband until 1881, dying at the advanced age of eighty-seven. They were the parents of five sons and four daughters, only four of whom are living, and of whom Henry J., our subject, was the third in order of birth.

ALVIN STEARNS. Among the men of this county who have risen from a small beginning to an eminent position in the estimation of their neighbors, is the gentleman whose name initiates this biography. To be a a self-made man means something. It indicates that the man who has earned the honor of being so called, has passed through many hardships, and had seen the dark clouds of adversity when perhaps despair was but a step ahead, but by perseverance and intelligence has emerged in the sunlight of prosperity.

Harvey Stearns, the father of Alvin, was born in Vermont, but afterward removed to New York, and was there married to Fanny Lockwood, a native of New York. Thence he removed to Ohio, in 1814, where he bought a small farm, and remained there until 1832. He then located on the site of Alvin Stearns' present home, building a log house and becoming a full-fledged citizen of Illinois. At that time there were scarcely half-a-dozen houses between his farm and Danville, where the Government had stationed some troops to keep the Indians in subjection. Harvey Stearns and his wife were respected by all their acquaintances for their sterling qualities. They were the parents of eight children, five of whom are living. He died Nov. 30, 1847, aged fifty-six years, while the mother survived until Aug. 1, 1877, passing away at the advanced age of eighty-seven years.

Alvin Stearns was the eldest of the family, and was born Nov. 28, 1815, in Ohio. He was sixteen years of age when his father located in Illinois. He and his brother Calvin walked the entire distance from Ohio to Illinois, driving cows, sheep and hogs. Mr. Stearns obtained his education partly in his native State, but finished it in Illinois. He attended subscription schools, and his learning was secured in the usual manner of the early pioneer days. He was very studious, and always aimed to be at the head of his class—a position he generally secured. Being the oldest son, and his father being in poor health most of the time, he was obliged to take the lead in the work of the farm. Many times he has gone thirty or forty miles to mill, and often was obliged to go to Danville in the night, sixteen miles distant, to call a physician for his father. In those days the farmers in this section transported their wheat by team to Chicago, bringing back supplies. Mr. Stearns remained at home until he was past twenty-two years of age, aiding his father.

Mr. Stearns married Miss Elizabeth Lee, April 12, 1837. She was a daughter of William H. and Rebecca Lee, who came from Ohio to Illinois in 1829, and located a mile and a half west of Mr. Stearn's present home. Mr. Lee was a prominent and prosperous citizen of the early days, and the father of eight children, all of whom, except one, are now dead, and the father and mother have long since passed to their reward. Mrs. Stearns was the eldest child, born in 1819, and at the time of her marriage was nineteen years of age. Mr. Stearns located on a part of his father's place immediately after his marriage, where he built a log house and commenced seriously the battle of life. When his father died he purchased the interest of the other heirs, except that belonging to his mother. The old farm consists of 600 acres, and he has given each of his children a quarter section of good land, and to one of them a house and lot, which cost $6,000. At the time of his marriage Mr. Stearns did not possess $50, but, aided by his most estimable wife, he has long since passed the mark that divides poverty from wealth. He has now a handsome and costly residence, which is represented elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. and Mrs. Stearns are the parents of three children, all of whom are living: Lawson married Amanda Izard, and they are residing in Homer, Ill., with their three children; Ersom is unmarried,

and resides in Homer; Rocella J. is the wife of T. B. Craig. They are living on the next farm east of the old homestead, and have five children. Mrs. Stearns, the mother of these children, died Jan. 23, 1887, aged sixty-seven years, nine months and four days. Mr. Stearns has been an administrator for many estates, among which may be mentioned those of his father and the Lee estate, also Aaron Hardin's, William Clutter's, Alfred Harden's and the immense estate that belonged to Mr. Yount. He has successfully administered all these large trusts, and with satisfaction to each of the heirs, all of which constitutes a most remarkable record in this line. For twelve years Mr. Stearns has been Assessor and Collector, and for six years has held the office of Road Commissioner. He has also been School Director for twenty years.

Politically, Mr. Stearns is a stalwart Republican, and always votes for the candidates of that party. His first ballot was cast for William Henry Harrison, and he heard that distinguished gentleman deliver two speeches—one at Wilmington, and the other at Lebanon, Ohio. It is unnecessary to state that his last vote was cast for the other Harrison. Mr. Stearns has been a member of the Baptist Church for the last thirty years, and the fact that he has been chosen to adjust so many estates is evidence that he stands high in the estimation of his fellows.

GEORGE N. NEVILLE. The preservation of choice blood in the human species has as much to do with the characteristics of an individual, as does careful breeding in the animal kingdom in determining the fine points of that portion of creation; and he, who can look back upon his ancestry, tracing its lines through generations of high-minded and honorable people, has something of which to be truly proud. The ancestry of Mr. Neville is traced back to the Land of the Thistle, his paternal grandparents emigrating from Scotland to Virginia, in time for his grandfather, Joseph Neville, to take part as a brigadier-general on the side of the colonists in their great struggle for liberty. Unlike many of those who crossed the Atlantic at that time, he came fortified with ample means which he invested largely in land, comprising a valuable plantation, worked by slaves whom he liberated at his death.

Among the sons of grandfather Neville was George, the father of our subject, who was born in Moorefield, W. Va., and was the youngest of a family of twelve children. He studied law at Winchester, Va., under Abram Lock and was duly admitted to the bar. His first and last case in court was one in which his client, an old man, in a fit of insanity killed his wife, after they had lived a long and apparently happy life together and raised a large family of children, who had married and settled in homes of their own in the neighborhood. The old man was arrested and tried on the charge of murder. George Neville undertook to defend him and made a vow to clear him or never practice again. The prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to be hung which sentence was carried out to the letter of the law. Mr. Neville kept his vow, immediately took up the study of medicine and practiced that as long as he lived, his decease taking place in 1822.

Mrs. Elizabeth (Wolfe) Neville, the mother of our subject, was the daughter of Lewis and Catherine Wolfe, natives of Germany, who emigrated to America and settled in Winchester, Va., where the father became a very prominent man and was engaged in mercantile pursuits the remainder of his life. They reared a large family of children and gave them an exceptionally fine education. One son, Thomas, was a pupil in one of the German Universities, and another son, Lewis, developed into a promising lawyer, becoming a leading politician and representing his district in the State Legislature. One daughter married a brother of of Wade Hampton, Sr.

The parents of our subject were married in Winchester, Va., in 1798 and removed thence to Moorefield, where the father spent the remainder of his life. The mother in 1837 removed to Indiana and died there in 1843. Their seven children included two daughters and five sons and but two of the family survive—our subject and his brother, Joseph

B., a resident of Sumner County, Kan. George N. was the youngest child of his parents and was born Feb. 2, 1820 at Moorefield, Hardy Co., W. Va. He received a very good education in the common schools, attending until a youth of sixteen. About that time the family came north and George N. remained a member of his father's household until his marriage.

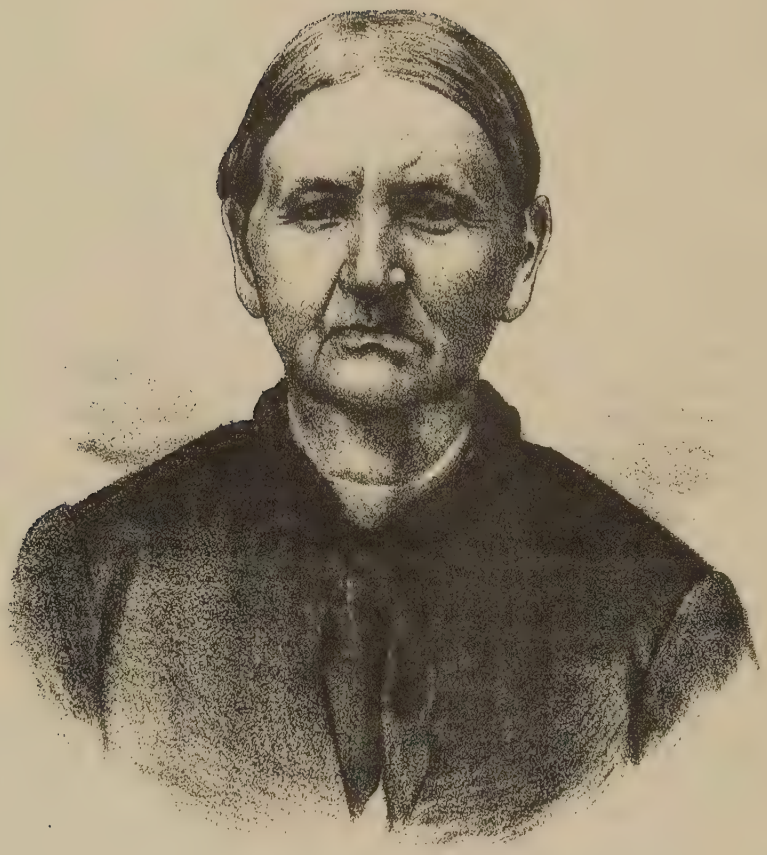
The above mentioned interesting event in the life of our subject took place Sept. 24, 1840, the bride being Miss Mary S., a daughter of Warner Throckmorton, a leading lawyer of Romney, Hampshire Co., Va. The great-grandfather of Mrs. Neville, William Throckmorton by name, emigrated before the War of the Revolution from the old county of Gloucester, Va., to Jefferson County, Va. The Throckmorton family had been often and honorably named in the pages of history, before they became residents of the United States. Very few of their descendants now reside in the old home; indeed all of that name have removed therefrom, and collateral descendants alone remain of a former influential family. Grandfather Throckmorton was born and reared to man's estate in Jefferon County, Va. He studied law with his uncle, John Dixon, one of the ablest lawyers and most talented man in the State. Under his friendly counsel Mr. Throckmorton acquired legal ability, and rapidly rose in the profession until he occupied a very prominent position among members of the bar in his own State and country. He died in the prime of life, being forty-two years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Neville began their wedded life on a farm eight miles south of La Fayette, Ind., where they lived until 1854. That year they came to this county, settling on the north half of section 10 in Vance Township, when there were but a few people located outside of the towns and prior to the laying out of Fairmount. Mr. Neville evolved a good farm from the virgin soil, the land becoming highly productive, and upon which he made excellent improvements. Here with his excellent wife he lived and labored until advancing years admonished him it would be wise to lay aside some of the sterner duties of life, and accordingly in 1884 he left the farm and established himself in Fairmount, where, surrounded by all the comforts of a pleasant and attractive home, he is spending his later days in peace and quiet.

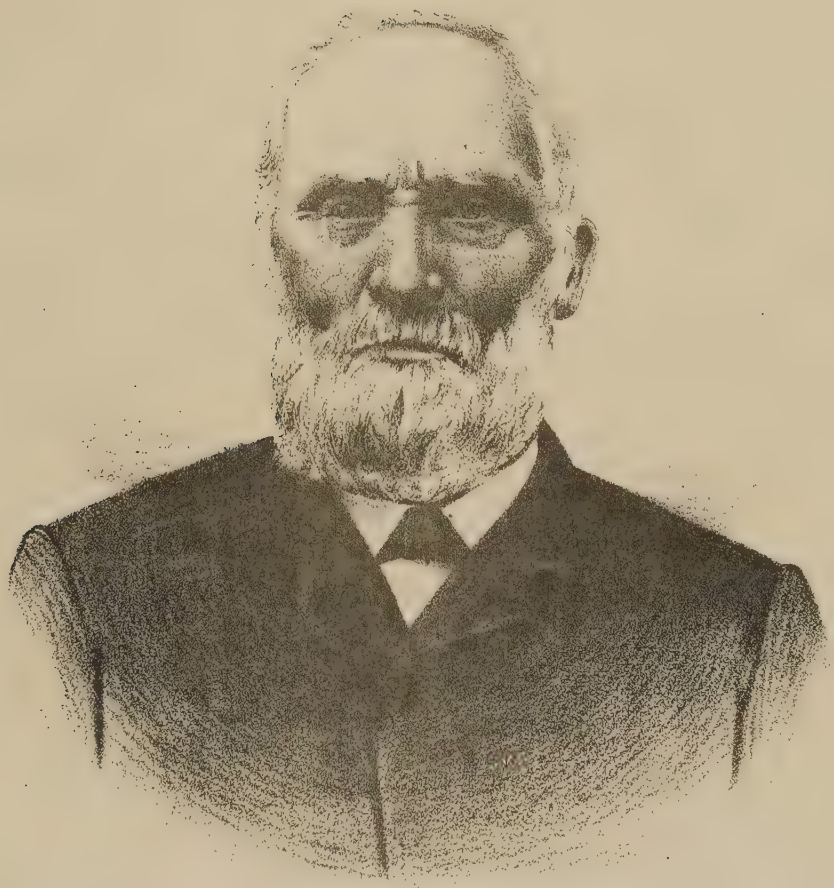
To Mr. and Mrs. Neville there were born ten children, seven of whom are living. The eldest son, George Warner, during the Civil War enlisted in the 25th Illinois Infantry. At the battle of Kenesaw Mountain he was severely wounded and was removed to the hospital at Chattanooga where he died on the 11th of July, 1864, at the age of twenty-one years, six months and twenty-one days. The G. A. R. Post, organized at Fairmount subsequently adopted the name of this gallant boy, who was a general favorite among his young associates. Miss Anna C. Neville became the wife of Alvin A. Taylor, of Fairmount, and they have one child; Norbourn married Miss Lizzie Price, and they live on the home farm; they have no children. Mary E. is the wife of Rev. Henry Collins, a member of the Illinois Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and they have one child; Frank married Miss Margaret Cannon, is the father of three children and lives five miles south of Fairmount; Sally Virginia remains at home with her parents; Ada is the wife of Rev. D. W. Calfee, a member of the California Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and they have three children; Nellie is the wife of Walter G. Owen, living at Fort Smith, Ark., and they have two children.

Mr. Neville has held the office of Inspector of Elections and School Treasurer in Indiana, and in Illinois held the latter office for seven years, until resigning. He has been Road Commissioner for fifteen years, also School Director. Although not an active politician, he takes a lively interest in the success of the Republican party, of which he has been a member since its organization, and although born and reared in the Old Dominion, was strongly opposed to the institution of slavery, his views upon this question assuming definite form at the early age of fifteen years and experiencing no change thereafter.

Mr. and Mrs. Neville are devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church with which Mr. Neville has been identified since a youth of nineteen years, and for many years he has officiated as Steward and Trustee. He has always maintained a warm



Nancy Bantz



E. J. Barry

interest in Sunday-school, mission and temperance work, to which he has given largely of his time and means and labored as he had opportunity, to advance the moral and social status of the people around him. His life has been one of large experience during which he has learned well from men and things, and he possesses a fine fund of information which makes him a gentleman with whom it is most pleasurable and profitable to converse.

EZRA J. BANTZ. The preservation of family history is beginning to assume due importance in the minds of the intelligent people of the present day, as the biographer finds here and there one who, like the subject of this notice, has carefully preserved whatever information he could obtain concerning the lives of his ancestry. He has given to this matter considerable thought and attention, and next to his personal history and that of the Bantz family, esteems in importance everything connected with the history of his native land. He is one of those patriotic spirits who appreciate the advantages of living in an enlightened country, and who realize what efforts have been put forth to bring it to its present position among the nations of the earth. The fact that patriotism is beginning to be taught in the public schools speaks well for the civilization of the present day, and none are in more earnest sympathy with this movement than he with whose name we introduce this biographical record.

We find Mr. Bantz pleasantly located on a well-regulated farm, occupying a part of section 17 in Oakwood Township. He made his first purchase here in 1864, and the year following took up his permanent residence in this county. He has now 230 acres of fine farming land, located one mile south of Muncie, partly prairie and partly timber, and nearly all in productive condition. Mr. Bantz proposed the name of Muncie for the above-mentioned town, and out of respect for him it was duly adopted.

Our subject was born Jan. 12, 1827, in Preble County, Ohio, and was the eldest of ten children, the offspring of Joshua and Elizabeth (Brenner) Bantz, the former a native of Frederickstown, Md., born in 1805, and the latter a native of Ohio, born in 1807. Joshua Bantz was a farmer by occupation, and lived to the good old age of seventy years, departing hence in 1875. The mother had preceded her husband to the silent land in 1863. The paternal grandfather, John Bantz, a native of Germany, died in Ohio at the age of seventy years. His father and brothers, Solomon and Felty, emigrated to America from Prussia at an early day, and settled in Maryland. Grandfather Bantz took an active part in the defence of Baltimore during the War of 1812. He married Miss Byerly ,of Maryland, who was, like himself, of German descent. He was a weaver by trade, but after his marriage removed to Preble County, Ohio, where he purchased 120 acres of land, and thereafter occupied himself as a tiller of the soil. He spent his last days upon the farm which he opened up from the wilderness. Grandmother Bantz survived her husband a few years, dying at the age of about seventy-five.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was John Brenner, a native of Kentucky, and whose father emigrated from Germany during the first settlement of the Blue Grass State. He built a log cabin in the wilderness among the Indians, and had a little square window in the rear, which also served as a port hole, through which he thrust his gun in time of danger and defended himself against his enemies. He owned a negro slave named Ned. One morning the master was aroused by the apparent cry of a wild turkey, and arising from bed took down his gun, and was on the point of leaving the house to shoot the game when Ned jumped up, crying out: "Hold on, Massa; let me shoot that turk." The master gave him the gun, and Ned going out by the front door, made a wide circle around, and in a short time grandfather Brenner heard the report of a rifle in the rear of the cabin. Directly Ned came in with the head of an Indian stuck on a pole. "Here, Massa, here is your turkey." The negro understood the coming of the Indian that time better than his master.

After a time grandfather Brenner emigrated to Ohio, and died there at the advanced age of ninety-

five years. His wife was in her girlhood Miss Sarah Warren, of Massachusetts, and died before reaching her three-score years. Her father, John W. Warren, served in the Revolutionary War from the beginning to the close, on the side of the colonists. He was a native of England and a cousin of the lamented Gen. Joseph Warren, who fell at Bunker Hill. John Warren also participated in that battle, and was at Brandywine when so many British were killed and fell into the creek that the Americans could cross dry-shod over their dead bodies. He died about 1830 at the age of eighty-five years.

The parents of our subject were married in Ohio about 1825. Six of their ten children are still living, being residents mostly of Indiana. The family removed to Indiana in 1835, where Ezra J. received a practical education in the common schools, and grew up an admirable young man of excellent habits, sound principles, and a well-informed mind. When twenty-one years of age, he walked from eastern Indiana through the woods to Logansport, and at that point, on the 10th of March, 1848, enlisted in the 15th Regiment of Regulars for the War with Mexico. They started for the field, but the war was over by the time the company of our subject had reached Newport, Ky. He there received his discharge, and returning to Indiana, resumed work on the farm of his father until his marriage.

The above mentioned event in the life of our subject took place Nov. 9, 1848, the bride being Miss Nancy, daughter of Eli and Elizabeth (Forbes) Thornburg. After the marriage Mr. Bantz and his young wife settled in Delaware County, Ind. Mr. Bantz obtained, from the land warrant given him by the Government, land in the Indian Reserve in Indiana, but not long afterwards sold out and purchased land in Eastern Indiana, adjoining a farm already owned by his wife. This they occupied until 1865, and in that year, as already stated, came to Illinois, of which they have since been residents.

Of the six children born to our subject and his estimable wife, four are living. Daniel J. married Miss Sarah Ross, is the father of six children, and lives on a farm in Champaign County; James married Miss Addie Dalbey, is the father of four children, and occupies the farm north of the Bantz homestead; Louisa E. became the wife of Erastus Dow, and they live in Texas; Mary M., the wife of William Ellis, is the mother of four children, and they are also residents of the Lone Star State. Mr. Bantz cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Cass, and has been a uniform supporter of Democratic principles. He enjoys a pension on account of his proffered services during the Mexican War. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and in religious matters is liberal. His estimable wife and their children are members in good standing of the Baptist Church. Our subject, while a resident of Indiana, officiated as Township Trustee, and in his present district has been School Director and Road Overseer. He is one of the solid and reliable men of Oakwood Township—one who has contributed materially to her advancement and prosperity.

As representatives of the worth of Vermilion County, we present elsewhere in this ALBUM fine portraits of Mr. Bantz and his wife, which will be highly prized by all their friends.

IRA BABB was born in the house he now occupies, Nov. 2, 1842. His father Levi Babb, was a native of Greene County, Tenn., and his birth occurred Oct. 26, 1788. The senior Babb came to Vermilion County in October, 1826, stopping near Yankee Point for a short time and then settling in December of the same year on section 14, range 11, Elwood Township, about one mile northeast of Ira's present residence. He remained there about three years and a half, entering the west half of the southeast quarter of the section named, when he built the house in which his son Ira now lives, in 1830.

During the time before specified, Levi Babb, entered the following tracts of land all situated in township 17, north of range 11, west of the second principal meridian, viz: the east half of northwest quarter and the west half of northeast quarter of section 24, entered March 20, 1827. Also the west

half of the southeast quarter of section 13, on same date. The east half of the southeast quarter of section 23, Dec. 8, 1827. The east half of the southwest quarter of section 24, Dec. 1, 1830, and the west half of northeast quarter of section 26, June 6, 1831, also other smaller tracts amounting in all to about 600 acres. The Indians had their camping grounds where the old homestead is now situated. The subject of this sketch has picked up many flint arrow heads on his land and he also has in his possession a stone axe discovered there also. His father, in the early days was obliged to go to Racoon and Sugar Creeks, Parke County, Ind., to mill. He endured many hardships and privations, and when he emigrated to this county his means of transportation was a five horse wagon, in which he and his family rode a distance of 650 miles. He taught a son of one of the Indian chiefs to plow and in many other ways did things which made the Indians his friends forever, and he also spoke the Indian language fluently. Levi Babb was a tireless worker and in everything that pertained to his farm he spared no pains to procure the best. He used to haul his produce to Chicago and return with salt and groceries and was at that place when the first warehouse was being built. He was offered forty acres of land for a yoke of oxen, where Chicago now stands, but declined as he thought the land would never be worth anything. He owned at one time 600 acres of land and left nearly that amount at the time of his death. He was married twice, his first wife being Susannah Dillon, and by her he had ten children, two of whom are living: Jonathan and Levi. She was born July 10, 1788, in Greene County, Tenn. Levi Babb married for his second wife, Elizabeth Prevo. The ceremony occurred on Nov. 21, 1839. She was born in North Carolina Oct. 31, 1804, near Ashboro, and was the daughter of Alexander and Hannah Prevo, who emigrated to Fountain County, Ind., in an early day. She was the mother of three children: Ira, Hannah and Allie, the two latter being deceased. Allie was the wife of William Hottel, of this township. She died Jan. 13, 1887, at the age of forty and was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Father Babb died at the advanced age of eighty-three years, four months and twenty-seven days, his death occurring March 23, 1872, while his wife passed away on Feb. 3, of the same year, aged sixty-seven years three months and two days.

Ira Babb has always lived on the old homestead. He owns 409 acres of land here and twenty-two acres in Vermillion County, Ind. He is engaged in general farming, and in the manufacture of drain tile. His stock consists of Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs, all of a high grade, and general purpose horses. He erected his tile factory in 1887. It is a fine frame structure 20x60, two stories high, with an L of the same dimensions. He is manufacturing tile from three to twelve inches in diameter, and also brick of a fine quality. The factory is driven by a twenty-five horse-power engine, which is supplied with steam by a Hadley & Wright boiler, which is forty-four inches in diameter and ten feet long. The tile made at this factory is of the very best quality and in great demand.

On Sept. 28, 1882, our subject was married to Miss Minerva E., daughter of Elihu Canaday. Mrs. Babb was born in Clarke County Nov. 19, 1845. Elihu Canaday, Mrs. Babb's father, was married to Elizabeth McCowan. They were the parents of seven children, viz: Adam, Sarah J., Henry D., Annie M., Mary Jemima, Minerva E., and Rebecca J. Elihu Canaday died Oct. 4, 1848. Elizabeth (McCowan) Canaday died in April, 1863. Annie M. Canaday who was born April 11, 1838, when two years old went blind. She was a sister of Mrs. Babb. This child died at the Blind Institute at Jacksonville, at the age of twenty years. The grandparents of the subject of this sketch, Thomas and Martha (Ewing) Babb, emigrated from Winchester, Va., to Greene County, Tenn., in the early settlement of the latter State, locating in Babb's Valley. They had a family of twelve children who are scattered throughout the west and Northwest, while some remained in Tennessee. Their son, Levi, the father of Ira, was a soldier in the war of 1812. He also had two brothers, David and Caleb, who served in the army at the same time, all being under Gen. Jackson. At one time they were in a party of soldiers that chased the In-

dians for six days and nights with nothing to eat save a little spoiled flour, some hickory nuts and sweet hickory roots, and this incident, so Mr. Babb says, is what gave the name of "Old Hickory" to Gen. Jackson, as he too partook of the nuts and roots.

Mr. Babb has never sought official honors. He is a pronounced and enthusiastic Democrat. He is proud of the record his father has made and is in all respects a praiseworthy citizen. Mr. Babb has in his possession a portion of two almanacs, dated respectively 1828 and 1829, also implements and relics of "ye olden tyme," such as a sickle, and pitchfork over one hundrd years old and many other things.

THOMAS A. TAYLOR, a prominent resident of Catlin Township, is a man whose well trained, vigorous mind and progressive views place him in the front ranks of the enlightened, wide-awake agriculturists of Vermilion County. He has a large farm of nearly 600 acres, whose broad, fertile fields, roomy substantial buildings and well ordered appearance generally, mark it as one of the best managed and choicest estates in this part of the county, and here on section 5 he has erected a handsome residence that is replete with all the modern comforts.

Our subject was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., April 25, 1847, a son of Thomas A., and Ivea (Allen) Taylor, natives respectively of Ohio County and Shelby County, Ky. After marriage his parents began their wedded life in Tippecanoe County, Ind., near Lafayette, where he followed his trade, that of a tanner, living there till 1852, where they came with their family to Vermilion County to settle among its pioneers, taking up their abode in Catlin Township. The father died here in September, 1876, and an upright and honored citizen was thus lost to the community with whose highest interests his own had been identical from the first hour of his settlement here. He was a man of sincere piety and a worthy member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. His wife still survives and makes her home in Catlin Township. She is a truly good woman and a devoted member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. They had eight children, of whom our subject was the seventh in order of birth.

He was five years old when he accompanied his parents to Vermilion County, and the remainder of his life has since been passed here. He was given the advantages of a liberal education, obtaining the basis of it in the public schools, and he then became a student at Lincoln University in Logan County and subsequently took an excellent course of study at Mt. Zion Academy, Macomb County, Ill., his studies being of a practical character such as would be of benefit to him in his business relations and in his work. After leaving school he devoted himself to the teacher's profession for nine years, meeting with great success in that vocation and by his intelligent methods placing himself in the forefront of the best educators in this part of the country. He has resided in Catlin, and aside from teaching has given his attention wholly to agricultural pursuits, owning and managing one of the largest and finest farms in this region, as before mentioned.

Mr. Taylor frankly acknowledges that he is greatly indebted for much that is good in his life to his amiable wife, to whom he was married in Catlin Township, March 11, 1869. She is in every respect a true Christian, possessing much intelligence and capacity, and a model housewife, and fills the perfect measure of wife, mother, friend, than which no higher eulogy can be pronounced. In her the Christian Church finds one of its most consistent members. Mrs. Taylor's maiden name was Mary C. Acree, and she is a daughter of the late Joel and Elvessa (Yount) Acree, known and honored as among the earliest settlers of Catlin Township, where he continued to reside till his death, Nov. 27, 1880. The father was born in Alabama, and the mother in Shelby County, Ky. They married and settled in Catlin Township in early pioneer times. He was a valued member of the Christian Church and a thoroughly upright man. The mother is still living in Catlin Township, and she is also a respected member of the Christian Church. They had two children who lived to grow up, Mrs. Taylor being the eldest,

and she was born in Catlin Township, Nov. 12, 1848. Ten of the twelve children that have gladdened the happy wedded life of our subject and his wife are still with them, two having died in infancy. The names of the survivors are Clemmer, Gailen H., Elvessa, Joel, Benjamin, Robert, Maggie, Lois, Whittier and Catherine. Our subject is prominently identified with the Republican party and its councils. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Catlin Lodge, No. 285, Vermilion Chapter and Athelstan Commandery at Danville.

Mr. Taylor is endowed with a keen, resolute nature, and by prompt, systematic methods and other excellent business habits, has accumulated a valuable property and is one of the moneyed men of Catlin Township. He is a man of earnest religious feelings, and in him the Cumberland Presbyterian Church has one of its most active workers and influential members, he having united with it early in life, and for twenty years or more he has been one of its Elders. He interests himself greatly in the Sunday-school, and has been Superintendent for many years.

DR. J. R. LYTLE, physician and surgeon of Rankin, is enjoying an extensive and lucrative practice in this village and the surrounding country, and he has already won an enviable reputation as a skillful, well-read and finely educated member of the medical profession of Vermilion County. He is active in public and political matters, and is a valued civic official of this village, in which he takes a deep interest, using his influence to advance its status, educationally, religiously and socially.

He comes of good old Pennsylvania stock, and is himself a native of the Keystone State, born in Armstrong County Dec. 2, 1850. His father, John Lytle, was born near Smicksburg, Indiana Co., Pa., Aug. 18, 1808. His early manhood was spent in clearing for himself a farm in what was then a forest near Dayton, Armstrong Co., Pa. He resided on this farm until 1860, when he removed with his family to the place he now occupies near Chambersville, Indiana County. He is of English ancestry, is well endowed intellectually and physically, and although he has attained the advanced age of eighty-one years, he still retains his mental faculties. The maiden name of his wife was Lavinia Reed. She was born Jan. 26, 1816, near Ligonier in Westmoreland County, Pa., and was of Scotch-Irish lineage. Feb. 24, 1889, she passed away from the joys and cares of earth, leaving behind to those who loved her the precious memory of a good and virtuous life. Six children were born of her marriage—Catherine, Robert J., John P., James R., S. Jennie, and Mattie A. Robert J., residing in Altoona, Pa., is a carpenter for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. During the war he served almost three years in Company K, 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry. He married Sarah Fleming of Indiana County, Pa., and they have had two children—Frank Elmer and Myrtle, the latter is deceased; John and Jennie live on the old homestead near Chambersville, Pa. He married Debbie Reeder, of Lock Haven, Pa., and they have a family of children; Catherine is the widow of Ferguson Speedy, of Indiana County, Pa., where she is still residing; Mattie A., married McCloud Brady, of Westmoreland County, Pa., and he is now engaged at his trade in a shoe factory in Latrobe, Pa.

Dr. Lytle was reared in the home of his birth, and was given good educational advantages, pursuing an excellent course of study at Dayton Academy, and after leaving school he engaged awhile in teaching. He was desirous of becoming a physician, and entered upon his studies for that purpose with Dr. Thomas McMullen of Greenville, Indiana Co., Pa., and in 1879, attended medical lectures. He was graduated in the class of 1884, from Rush Medical College, Chicago, Ill., and at once opened an office in Paxton, this State, remaining there two years. At the expiration of that time he came to Vermilion County and established himself at Rankin, where he still practices. He has a large number of patients and is very popular with all classes.

The Doctor was married to Lauretta M. Burrell, of Marshall County, Ill., June 30, 1881. She is a daughter of the late Jacob and Mary (Withrow) Burrell, of Westmoreland County, Pa. Her father

died in 1883. Her mother now makes her home with her. She is the mother of six children—James W., Joseph H., J. G., Amos, (deceased), Nannie and Mrs. Lytle. James was a soldier for the Union, surviving the horrors of Southern prisons, and is now a carpenter, residing in La Prairie, Marshall Co., Ill. He married Mary Butler, of Johnstown, Pa., and they have six children; J. G., an architect and builder, married a Miss Johnson of Monmouth, Ill., and they have two children; Joseph married Miss Sarah Yont, and is living at Thayer, Iowa; Amos was a soldier who gave up his life in the late war, having received an injury, from which he died just after his return home on a furlough; Nannie married William Bitner, of Westmoreland County, Pa., now a resident of Kansas City, Mo., where he is engaged in a meat market.

Although Dr. Lytle has been a resident of this village only a very few years, he is already prominently identified with its highest public interests, and is found to be a wise and safe counsellor. As Village Trustee, he is active in promoting all feasible schemes for the advancement of Rankin in every way posible. In politics, the Republican party has in him one of its truest and most intelligent upholders, who keeps himself well-posted on all political issues and other matters of interest concerning the welfare of the Nation. Both he and his amiable wife are influential members of the United Presbyterian Church, of which he has been an Elder for some years.

MRS. EMMA C. McDOWELL, is an extensive land owner of Sidell Township, and one of its leading residents. She also owns land in Carroll Township, upon which is situated a tile factory. Her father, William Porter, was born fifteen miles from Lexington, Ky., while her mother is a native of Pickaway County, Ohio. Her grandfather, Samuel Porter, was a native of Maryland, as was also his wife. They removed to Kentucky and from there came to Vermilion County in 1836, where they remained until their death. Her maternal grandfather, Capt. William Swank, was a native also of Maryland, while her maternal grandmother was born in Virginia. Her great grandfather was killed by the Indians, and his wife was left with a large family of small children. The Porter family were closely identified with the early history of Virginia. Capt. William Swank was an officer in the War of 1812. He was married in Ohio and came to Vermilion County, in 1820, bringing with him his wife and two children. He was one of the very first settlers of the county, and located close to Butler's Point, at a place then called Indianola, where the old salt works were located.

Mrs. McDowell's mother was one of the two children referred to. She used to relate many incidents of the early pioneer history which was thrilling in the extreme, and to the people of this day seemed almost incredible. The hardships that these old pioneers went through is the basis upon which is founded this splendid State. Mrs. McDowell's grandfather went to mill in the early days to the Big Racoon River, a journey which occupied an entire week's time. Capt. Swank became well-to-do, owning 600 or 700 acres of land at the time of his death. He laid out one of the earliest town sites in Vermilion County, which was then called Dallas, later he also laid out the town of Indianola. He was associated in this last enterprise with Mr. William Beard. The Captain died in 1851 and was buried in the Weaver Cemetery east of Indianola. The Swanks also belonged to leading families in Virginia, and were of English descent.

Grandfather Porter came to Vermilion County in 1837, and settled about one and a half miles east of Indianola, where he died in 1848. Mrs. McDowell's father was born in 1813 and was of age when he came to Illinois. He resided upon the original homestead for some years. After selling this he removed to Indianola where his wife died, which occurred in 1886, since which time he has lived with his daughter, Mrs. McDowell. He was the father of seven children: Rosa, Mary, Emma C., William E., Cordelia, Minerva and Samuel. Rosa resides in Ellwood Township, this county, and is the wife of Mr. W. Hayworth. They have three children; Mary married A. H. Mendenhall, a

farmer of Carroll Township. They are the parents of six children; William E. married Zetta Black; Cordelia died in 1874. She was the wife of Paul Merriam. She died in Missouri where they removed after their marriage; Minerva married Marshal Cummings, a contractor of Indianapolis. They have four children; Samuel is unmarried.

Mrs. McDowell was born in Carroll Township, one and a half miles east of Indianola, on April 3, 1849. At the time of her birth the town was called Chillicothe. Here is where she spent her girlhood days and attended school in the little log structure that answered to the name of schoolhouse, her first teacher being Miss Parks, who is remembered as a very genial and pleasant lady. She attended school for three or four years, when she was promoted to the first frame school house erected at Indianola, and in this edifice she pursued her studies so dilligently that she passed a successful examination to enter the profession of teacher. She began teaching at the age of seventeen years, and was very successful as an educator. She became acquainted with her husband, Mr. McDowell, when she was a young girl and in 1869 was married to him.

John A. McDowell was born also in Carroll Township, not far from the present homestead. He was the son of John B. and Eleanor (Yarnell) McDowell, who were natives of Kentucky. They removed from their native State to Palestine, and a few years later came to Vermilion County, where they became a prominent family. Mrs. McDowell's husband was born Nov. 16, 1841, and was the fourth of a family of five children. He was born and educated in Vermilion County, and while yet a boy he exhibited strong inclinations for business and began to deal in live stock, a business he conducted all his days. His generosity was one of his salient characteristics, and when he was called away he was not only mourned sincerely by his relatives and friends, but by the poor people of his community as well. No deserving poor man ever came to him and went away empty-handed. He was active in matters pertaining to education and for the general developement of the community.

Mr. McDowell was emphatically a self-made man and when he died was well-to-do. He was entirely domestic in his tastes, and his home was sweet to him. He was an honored member of the Masonic fraternity, and his obsequies were perhaps more largely attended than any other similar event that ever occurred in Vermilion County. He left behind him a beautiful home and every thing to make life comfortable. His death occurred on Oct. 9, 1886. He left seven children to mourn the loss of a truly noble father. Their names are: Gracie, Jennie, Carrie, Fred, Ray, Cullom, and Ned. But these children are under the guidance of a good mother who will rear them to be good men and women. Mrs. McDowell is a member of the Baptist Church of Indianola.

PERRY O'NEAL is one of the oldest of the native born citizens of Vermilion County, his birth occurring Jan. 16, 1825, on the homestead once owned by his father, on section 27, Georgetown Township. He is a son of one of the earliest pioneers of the county, who was quite a prominent man in his time and did considerable to advance its interests. He is noted as having established the very first manufactory of any kind in the county, a tannery, which he operated successfully several years.

Thomas O'Neal, the father of our subject, was born in Nelson County, Ky., a son of John O'Neal, whose early history is unknown, although he was a pioneer of Kentucky, and there spent his last years. The father of our subject was reared in his native State, and when a young man started out to seek his fortune in the young State of Indiana, and locating in Madison Jefferson County, he worked at his trade of tanner, married there, and in 1820 removed to Edgar County. But he did not remain there long, coming in the following year to what is now Vermilion County, and taking a claim in what is now Georgetown Township. He built a log house on the place for the shelter of his family, and the land, which was part timber and part prairie, he commenced to prepare for cultivation. The land was owned by the government and had not then come into the market. As soon as it was for sale

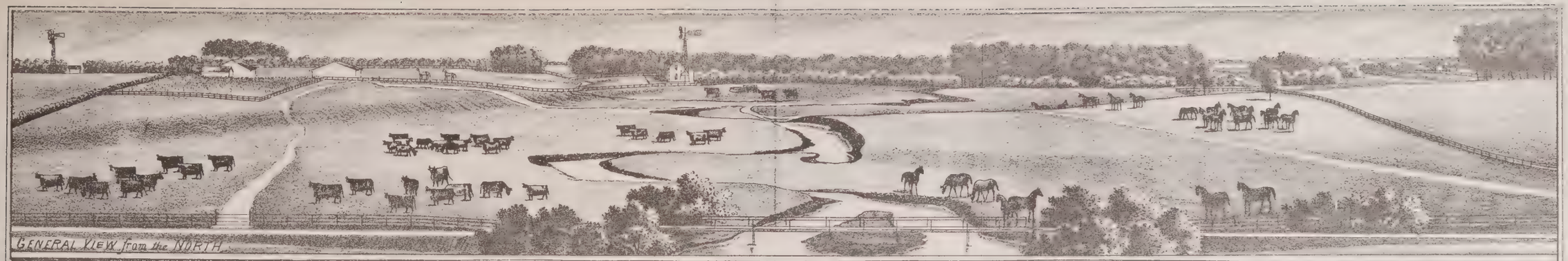
he sent a man to the land office to enter and pay for it, but he failed to enter the land, and another man bought it. Mr. O'Neal then, in 1826, came to Danville Township and entered eighty acres, including the eastern half of the southwestern quarter of section 27. It was heavily timbered land at the time, and he felled trees and erected a hewed log house. He soon established a tannery, the first manufacturing industry within the limits of the county. He continued its management several years, and in the meantime cleared a part of his land and engaged in farming. In the comfortable home that he built up by his unremitting and well directed toil his eyes closed to the scenes of earth, and a long and busy life was brought to an honorable end. His wife also died there, surviving him only two years, and they who had walked the path of life together more than forty years were not long divided in death. Her maiden name was Sarah Howard, and she was born in Nelson County, Ky., in 1794. Her father, Samuel Howard, was a pioneer of that State, and moving from there to Madison, Jefferson Co., Ind., he spent his last years in that place. Four of the children born to the parents of our subject grew to maturity, as follows: James, living in Georgetown Township; Perry; Nancy, wife of Lewis Ballah, a resident of Danville Township; Cynthia, wife of Joel Bates, of Batestown. The father of our subject was a man of more than ordinary intelligence, was gifted with a just, well balanced mind, was wise in council, and held a prominent place among his fellow pioneers. In 1840 he was elected Coroner of the county, and held that office many years to the entire satisfaction of all people and classes. In early life he was a Whig with liberal views, and he was always bitterly opposed to slavery, and was one of the first Republicans. He was well acquainted with Lincoln and with other men of note.

The subject of this biographical review spent his entire life here in his native county, and has been a witness of the greater part of its development from the wilderness to its present advanced state of civilization. He remembers well when the aboriginal settlers of the soil made their home here, and when deer, turkeys and other kinds of wild game were plenty. Lafayette and Perrysville were the early markets, but after Chicago was founded his father made an annual trip to that city with a team, taking wheat which he exchanged for household supplies. The mother of our subject used to card and spin wool and flax, and made all the cloth and clothes used in the family, even making the thread with which the clothes were put together. Perry assisted his father on the farm, and attended the early schools that were taught on the subscription plan in a log house, with rude benches made of slabs with wooden pins for legs. In 1852 he commenced to work a tract of land in Vance Township, which he and his father had entered from the government. He built a good frame house and improved 100 acres of land, and during that time making his home on the old homestead. He now has 180 acres of land under admirable tillage and capable of producing large crops, and he has erected a substantial, roomy set of frame buildings, and has everything about the place in good order, denoting that he has been prospered in his calling, and is now in comfortable circumstances.

Mr. O'Neal is a man of thrifty, industrious habits, and these with other notable traits have enabled him to lay up a competence, so that as old age draws on apace it finds him well fortified against material want. He is numbered among the most estimable and highly respected citizens of his native county, in whose development he has had a hand, and he merits the regard in which he is held. In his early years he was a Whig and cast his first vote for Gen. Taylor. Since the formation of the Republican party he has been a firm advocate of its principles.

MITCHELL B. GOSSETT, is a leading, prosperous, and energetic farmer of Sidell Township. His farm consists of 160 acres on section 34, and there is not one that is better tilled in Vermilion County. He purchased this farm in 1881, when but partially improved, and the condition that it is now in speaks well for the owner.

His father and mother, G. B. and Julia Gossett,

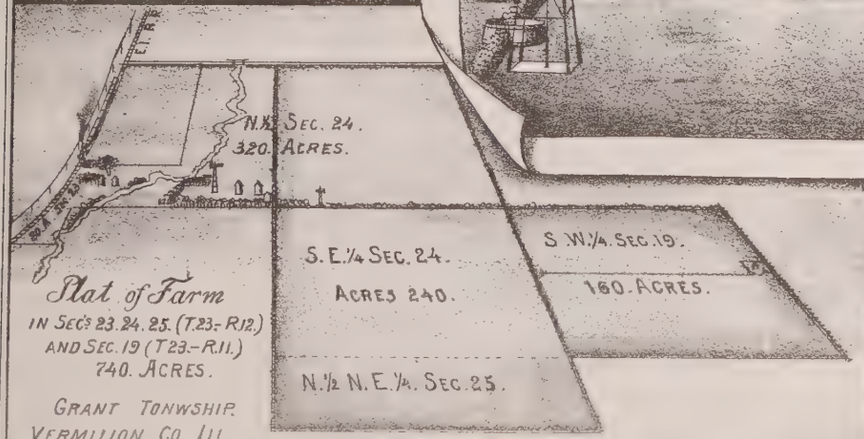


GENERAL VIEW from the NORTH.

NORTH FROM GARDEN

VIEW OF THE HOMESTEAD FROM THE EAST.

NEAR THE FORD



Plat of Farm
IN SECS 23. 24. 25. (T.23.- R.12.)
AND SEC. 19 (T.23.- R.11.)
740. ACRES.
GRANT TOWNSHIP.
VERMILION CO. ILL.

BENEDICT, DEL.

"MEADOW BROOK FARM." RESIDENCE OF WATTS FINLEY, SECS. 23 24. 25. (T.23. R.12.) AND SEC 19. (T.23. R11.) GRANT TP. VERMILION CO

are natives of Highland County, Ohio, where they were married. In 1859 they removed to Edgar County, Ill., where they are still residing, enjoying good health at a hale and hearty old age. The maternal grandfather served with distinguished ability in the War of 1812, and the ancestry on both sides of the house is an honorable one.

Mitchell Gossett was born in Highland County, Ohio, July 24, 1848. His early childhood was spent in his native county, and there he began attending school. His first work was on a farm in Edgar County, Ill., where he finished his education. He remained at home until the year before he was married, which ceremony occurred March 15, 1882, the bride being Miss Josephine Mark, a native of Edgar County. Her parents, Antony and Ellen (Hoppus) Mark, removed to Edgar County from Ohio, and were among the early settlers of Edgar Township, of that county. They are both living, and are looking back upon a record of which they can be proud.

Mr. Gossett is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Broadlands Lodge, of which he is a charter member. He believes that the Democratic party is one which embodies correct political principles, and consequently he is an ardent supporter of the candidates of that organization. In business affairs Mr. Gossett exhibits rare sense and good judgment, and the condition of his farm and its surroundings is an exhibition of the fact that in the race of life he has won. His home is always filled with cheerfulness, and everything in it denotes the intelligence of those who occupy it. Mr. and Mrs. Gossett are uniformly in the front rank in anything that will lead to the betterment of society, and are ever willing to aid the unfortunate in any manner they can.

WATTS FINLEY. A residence of over fifty-four years in one county is usually considered long enough to establish a man's character and standing among his fellow-citizens, and he naturally becomes a part and parcel of the community, with which, if he is at all worthy, it can scarcely dispense. If, as in the case of Mr. Finley, he has, by his industry and energy, accumulated enough property to considerably swell the amount of internal revenue, he should be considered of no small importance as a tax-payer, and a prominent and useful citizen. A farm of 740 acres located on sections 23, 24, and 25, township 23, ranges 11 and 12, indicates the manner in which Mr. Finley has improved his time and talents. His residence is on section 24, and his land is largely devoted to stock-raising, including cattle, horses and swine.

Our subject first opened his eyes to the light near Lawrenceburg, in Ripley County, Ind., Nov. 24, 1833, and in the early part of the following year, when about six months old, was brought by his parents to this county, they settling on a tract of land south of Danville. He remained a member of the parental household until some time after the parents passed away, they dying not many weeks apart, in 1853. In the spring of 1855, in company with his brother, Miller T., and his sister, Mrs. Capt. Frazier, he came to the farm which the former now occupies, and where he lived four years. In 1859, April 17th, he was married to Miss Margaret Davis, and with his young wife took up his abode at his present homestead, having then purchased 240 acres of wild land. Of this union there have been born three children, of whom but two are living—Mary and Charles. The former is the wife of Alva M. Honeywell, formerly of Iroquois County. The son remains at home with his parents.

It has required no small amount of labor and money to bring the valuable Finley homestead to to its present condition, and this has been effected solely by the present proprietor, who has aimed to excel, and it cannot be denied, has very nearly attained to the realization of his ambition. He has carefully avoided the responsibilities of political office, although a stanch supporter of Republican principles. Among his neighbors and fellow-townsmen he is well spoken of, which fact is as much to his credit as anything which can be said by the biographer. Every peaceable and law-abiding citizen who has aided in the development of this county, deserves recognition and the perpetuation of his name in its history.

Mrs. Margaret (Davis) Finley was born in Ohio,

April 16, 1834, and is the daughter of Amaziah Davis, who came to Illinois and located in Vermilion County during the period of its early settlement. He made farming his life occupation, and departed this life at his homestead about the year 1881. Mrs. Davis is still living and a resident of Rossville.

David Finley, the father of our subject, was a native of Kentucky, and married Miss Nancy Miller, either in Ohio or Indiana. They lived for some years in the Miami bottoms, then, in 1834, came to this county and located near the present site of Catlin. He died in 1853 at the age of seventy-three years. The wife and mother passed away when sixty-six years old. A handsome lithographic engraving of Mr. Finley's residence appears elsewhere in this volume.

JESSE LIGGET. This veteran of eighty-four years retired some time since from the active labors of farm life, and is situated in a comfortable home in Muncie, where he often reviews the scenes of the past and the arduous labors of a long life, during which he has probably performed more downright hard work than any man within the precincts of Oakwood Township. He received no educational advantages during his youth, having to bend his energies toward making a living, but has, from first to last, maintained the principles of honesty and integrity, able to stand up before the world like Longfellow's Village Blacksmith "for he owes not any man."

A native of the Old Dominion, Mr. Ligget was born in 1805, and the following year his parents removed to Ohio, which had only been converted from a Territory into a State four years before. The country was in its primitive condition, the settlers being few and far between, and the family endured all the hardships and difficulties of life on the frontier. Our subject was orphaned when a lad of twelve years by the death of both parents, who died in the same year, and without a guardian or assistance of any kind, he was thrown upon his own resources, and afterward made his own way unaided in the world.

John Ligget, the father of our subject, was a native of Virginia, and married a maiden of his own county, Miss Susannah Bennett. They became the parents of eight children, and Jesse, our subject, is the only survivor of the family. After their settlement in Ohio, they were greatly annoyed by the Indians. It was never their lot to accumulate property, and, although they worked hard, they possessed little of this world's goods.

Mr. Ligget never went to school a day in his life, but he grew up very industrious and frugal, and when eighteen years old purchased an old farm on credit, and four years later had it all paid for. He was then married to Miss Polly Coddington, who was born in Maryland, and who at the time of her marriage was only fifteen years old. They began housekeeping on their little farm, worked hard and lived happily together until her death. There were born to them twelve children, eight of whom are still living.

Wilson Ligget, the eldest son of our subject, married Miss Amanda Dysert; they live three miles northeast of Muncie, and have four children; Benjamin married Miss Mary Hughes, lives seven miles northeast of Muncie, and has eight children; Samuel married Miss Mary Barrickman; they live two and one-half miles west of Newtown, and have one child; Jesse, Jr., married Miss Sadie Warner, and lives on the Middle Fork; they have four children; Naomi is the wife of Levin Vinson, and they live in Pleasant Grove Hall; they have no children. Mary was first married to Hugh Louman, who died, leaving his widow with two children; she was then married to Johnson Gammel, and lives in Danville; of this union there have been born four children; Susan, the wife of John McVicker, lives in Danville, and has three children; Anna, Mrs. Asbury Young, lives in Indiana, and has four children.

The second wife of Mr. Ligget was Susan Dysert, who died about 1880 without children. In 1881 he was married to Mrs. Mahala Bloomfield.

Our subject came to Illinois in 1836, and located on eighty acres of land one mile northeast of Newtown. In due time he purchased 160 acres,

then at two different times added forty acres to his farm, later purchased another quarter-section, and finally was the owner of 600 acres. He has given all of his boys and two of his girls forty acres each, besides other property, and is still the owner of 400 acres, all in Vermilion County. He raises cattle and swine in goodly numbers, and derives therefrom a handsome income. In his old age he is situated in a comfortable residence at Muncie, and takes great satisfaction in reviewing the scenes of other years.

Mr. Ligget cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Jackson, and continued a member of the Democratic party until Abraham Lincoln was made the candidate of the Republicans. Being personally acquainted with honest old Abe, and greatly admiring his character, he could not very well do otherwise than vote for him, and since that time has been identified with the party which made Lincoln President. He has served as School Director in his district, and been a member of the Christian Church since 1830. Prior to this he had united with the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has met with some severe accidents during his battle with the world, having once had his feet badly mashed, his leg broken twice, and his left ankle broken twice. This has left him a cripple, but has not impaired the activity of his mind, which is still capable of recalling many of the interesting events of other days.

THOMAS GUTHRIE. The early pioneers of this county will be held in grateful remembrance long after they have been gathered to their fathers. The hardships and privations which they endured during the first settlement of this county, and the result of their labors, are at the present day receiving greater recognition than ever before, as the fact is becoming evident that they are passing away, and what we learn of them must be gathered at once, and put in a shape which may be preserved for future generations. The sturdy old veteran with whose name we introduce this sketch, is a man of sixty-seven years, and one of the earliest settlers of Illinois, living in Edgar County before locating in Sidell Township, this county, of which he is now a resident. The story of his life is one of remarkable interest, and the scenes which he has witnessed during his sojourn in the West, could they be told by himself, would make a most readable volume.

A man's antecedents are always of interest, especially in the case of him who has distinguished himself as a citizen of more than ordinary merit. The parents of our subject were George and Margaret Guthrie, natives of the town of Inniskillen, County Fermanagh, Ireland. They emigrated to America when quite young, settling in Pennsylvania, where they were married and afterward made their home, thirty miles south of Pittsburg, in Washington County. There they became the parents of eleven children, viz: William, John, Christine, Thomas, Mary, Andrew, Eliza; Catherine, who died at the age of twenty-eight years; James, who died when thirty years old; Sarah J. and George. The last mentioned son went to New Mexico, where he lived five years, and became a leading merchant at Richmond, in Grant County. The station of Guthrie, on the the Lawrenceburg & Clifton Railroad, was named after him. He was elected Justice of the Peace, and in the course of his duties rendered judgment against a desperado who afterward murdered him in his store. There was a requisition for the assassin from Arizona, to which place he was taken and hung for a murder committed in that territory. George Guthrie was married, and left his widow with one child, a daughter, Ettie.

Miss Eliza Guthrie became the wife of Robert Black, and died at the age of forty years, in this county, leaving six children—Maggie, Clara, John, William, Samuel and George. A sketch of Andrew Guthrie, the next child, will be found elsewhere in this volume; Mary became the wife of Thomas Metcalf, and died when about twenty-seven years old, in Mohican County, Ohio, leaving one child, James; Christine married Samuel Marshall, and died at Palermo, at the age of fifty-eight years, leaving two children, Abner J. and Maggie; John died in Sidell Township in 1884, leaving six children—Maggie, Mary, Renna, Charles, Irving and

Emma, by his second wife, and one child, Samuel, by his first wife; William died in Effingham County, this State, at the age of sixty-two years, leaving three children—Thomas, William and Margaretta; Sarah J. is the wife of George Powell, and they have four children—Irving, Mary, Hattie and Oscar.

The subject of this sketch was born Aug. 11, 1822, in Washington County, Pa., where he received a limited education, and was reared to man's estate. Upon reaching his majority he commenced working out by the month, and later wisely devoted a portion of his earnings to adding to his fund of learning, attending the academy at Merrittstown, Pa., where he pursued his studies with such good success that he became fitted for a teacher, and followed this profession four years in Washington County, and one year in Greene County. Later he engaged as a drover, buying stock in Western Pennsylvania, and driving through to New York and Philadelphia. He also handled a great many sheep, selling them principally in Lancaster County, Pa.

In 1854, desirous of establishing a home of his own, Thomas Guthrie was married to Miss Christian Keys, of Fayette County, Pa. Subsequently he engaged to drive 1,600 sheep to Danville, this county, which trip he made successfully, and he has continued to handle stock since that time, being one of the pioneers of the business in this section, and making of it an art and a science. In the meantime he has operated extensively as a grain-raiser, and has shipped hundreds of car loads of both grain and stock to Cincinnati, Ohio, Chicago, Ill., and Indianapolis, Ind. He resided for a number of years near Palermo, in Edgar County, and shipped from Hume. In the meantime he was quite prominent in local affairs, serving as Assessor and Collector seven years. He takes a warm interest in politics, and is well known as an active member of the Democratic party. He has served as Justice of the Peace three terms in Edgar County, and one term in this county.

During the progress of the Civil War Mr. Guthrie enlisted as a Union soldier in Company K, 125th Illinois Infantry, being mustered into service at Danville Oct. 2, 1862 for three years. The boys comprising Company K, were mainly from Catlin and Carroll townships. Mr. Guthrie enlisted as a private, drilled at Covington, Ky., and met the enemy in battle at Chaplin Hill, and at Murfreesboro in January, 1863. After the first mentioned he was promoted to Sergeant, and later served with the Provost Guards at Nashville. Mr. Guthrie was sent out as a scout nine miles south of Nashville to a place called Brentwood, where he received an injury from a shot, and suffered greatly for some time, when it was thought he would never recover. He received his honorable discharge at Nashville Oct. 30, 1863, on account of his wound.

The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Guthrie—George B., Hugh, and Sarah J.—are all at home with their parents. The latter are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Sidell Township, in which Mr. Guthrie is an Elder and Trustee, also an active Sunday-school worker, and contributed liberally to the erection of the church edifice. He officiates as guardian of the children left by the decease of Dr. Keys, of Hume, and has officiated as administrator of other estates of Dr. Keys. He has also been Justice of the Peace, and his decisions have been uniformly sustained. A simple, plain, straightforward man, his object in life has been to do good as he has had opportunity. He is one who has made many warm personal friends, and one who, in both his public and private life, bears an irreproachable character.

JOSEPH B. COOK. This well-to-do and enterprising citizen, still on the sunny side of forty, owns and operates a well-regulated farm on section 13, in Elwood Township, of which he is a native and where he has thus far spent his life. He was orphaned by the death of his parents when he was quite young, and is thus not as familiar with the history of his progenitors as he would desire. Nature endowed him with those qualities of character by which he has been enabled to attain to a worthy manhood and secure the respect and confidence of all who know him.

Our subject was born Sept. 29, 1851, and is the son of J. Riley Cook, who was born in this county. The paternal grandfather, Zimri Cook, was one of the pioneers of Central Illinois, and here spent his last days. J. Riley Cook departed this life when Joseph B., our subject, was a lad of five years. The mother of the latter had died when he was an infant. He was then taken into the home of his uncle, Joshua Thornton, the husband of his mother's sister, and Mr. Thornton died when young Cook was a lad of fifteen years.

Our subject, after the death of his uncle Thornton, began working for himself, and afterward, desirous of adding to his store of knowledge, attended Bloomingdale Academy, under the instruction of Prof. Hobbs, in 1870–71. In 1875–76 he attended Vermilion Grove Academy and afterward turned his attention to farming pursuits. He is the owner of fifty-one acres of good land, and has charge of forty more belonging to his mother-in-law. He was married April 5, 1883, to Miss Sicily E., daughter of David and Miriam (Mills) Haworth, the former deceased and the latter living in Elwood Township. John Mills, the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Cook, was a native of North Carolina, and removed to Ross Creek, East Tenn., prior to the War of 1812. There his daughter Miriam was born, June 12, 1809, and came with her parents to this county in 1822, arriving here the day she was thirteen years old.

The Mills family settled in the northwest quarter of section 23, range 12, township 17, Elwood Township, after a journey attended with many difficulties. There were various swamps along the route, and when four or five miles south of Quaker Point the teams were unable to proceed. Miriam, with two of her sisters, together with Ann Haworth and Nancy Biggs, all young girls, left the wagons and walked to the Point, while the teams and the men, women and little children were left to follow as best they could. They reached Jonathan Haworth's about dark. He was located near Quaker Point, just across the State line, in this county. In due time the travelers extricated themselves and proceeded on their journey.

John Mills settled among the Indians and wild animals, and entered four and one-fourth sections of land, where he put up a round-log cabin, with a puncheon floor, a huge fireplace in one end of the room, with a stick-and-clay chimney outside and a clapboard roof. The house contained only one room, but there was a loft, in which the boys slept. The nearest trading point was at Terre Haute, Ind., and the pioneers went to mill on Sugar Creek, in Parke County, Ind., with ox teams. Deer were numerous, the settlers being enabled to kill them almost at their own door. The wolves made night dismal with their howling, and the chickens, pigs and sheep had to be securely housed in order to save them. The woods were full of bee trees and there was an abundance of wild fruit. This section of the country at that time was almost literally a land flowing with milk and honey, but there was much sickness. The death of Hannah Mills was the first which occurred in the township. She died in the summer of 1823, and her remains were the first to be buried in what is now Vermilion Grove Cemetery.

The first wedding in Elwood Township was that of Andrew Wagerman and Tabitha Lyons. There came with the family of John Mills, Mr. James Haworth and his family, to whose son, David A., Miss Miriam was married, and became the mother of eleven children. These all lived to mature years, and were named, respectively: Wilison, Clayborne, Maria (deceased), James W., Elvin, John (deceased), Mary J., Beriah, Horace, Sicily and Linley. Mr. Haworth died about fifteen years ago; Mrs. Haworth makes her home with her children, and is remarkably active and healthy for one of her years. She has been a life-long member of the Society of Friends, to which Mr. Cook, our subject, and his wife also belong.

ROBERT M. KNOX. Hoopeston, soon after being laid out, became the home of a goodly number of solid and substantial men, to whom it owes its progress and prosperity. Among them came Mr. Knox, in September of 1871, a young man, active and enterprising, and who has proved one of its most valued

citizens. He is now engaged in the real estate, loan and insurance business, and has become well-known to a large portion of the people of this locality. He is regarded as a man who can be depended upon in all his transactions for honesty and integrity, and has a well-equipped office located on Market street.

The native place of our subject was in Salt Creek Township, Wayne Co., Ohio, where his birth occurred Jan. 14, 1840. He there spent the days of his boyhood and youth, attending the public school, and later pursued his studies at Havesville Institute, in Ashland County. Upon leaving school he commenced learning the trade of carriage-maker and was occupied at this business until the second year of the Rebellion. On the 7th of August, 1862, under the call of President Lincoln for "300-000 more," he enlisted in Company H, 102d Ohio Infantry, and served most of the time in the Army of the Cumberland. He remained in the army two years, and then, on account of disability, was obliged to accept his honorable discharge in December, 1864.

Upon leaving the army Mr. Knox for a time resumed his studies in the institute before mentioned. Thence he came to Paxton, Ford County, this State, in 1865, and was engaged in teaching one year. Subsequently he taught in winter, and farmed in the summer season. He also traveled a part of the time for the Illinois Central Insurance Company, of Decatur, and was thus occupied until coming to this county in the fall of 1871. He now became interested in grain, and associated himself with a partner, and they, under the firm name of Given & Knox, began operations when there were only four or five buildings upon the present site of Hoopeston, and when thirty or forty men were obliged to sleep in a large store room in process of construction, making their beds upon the shavings as there were no other lodgings to be had. This firm was the second of the kind in the place. Before winter set in there had been erected enough buildings to accommodate all the people.

An estimate of the rapid progress of business in the embryo village of Hoopeston at this time, can be had when it is learned that the first day the weighing scales were in operation there was a train of wagons waiting for three blocks, as thick as they could stand, sometimes as many as 100 in a day, and from that time on the grain business especially was prosperous. Our subject and his partner, after making a snug little sum of money, sold out, and Mr. Knox became interested in real estate, which kept him very busy as long as town lots were in demand. Later he began operating as a money lender. He also has charge of property of many who are non-residents. He has meddled very little in political affairs, otherwise than to give his support to the principles of the Republican and Prohibition parties. He has for many years had charge of the Cemetery Association, of which he is Secretary, and officiates in the same capacity for the Building Association. Whether in connection with these or any other body, he has a thorough contempt for wire working, and for any corporation which shall take advantage of the people.

Nearly twenty-four years ago, in October, 1865, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. Given, and to them there were born three children, of whom two are living—Lulu B. and Edward. The daughter is at Monmouth, Col., and the son is at home with his father. Mrs. Mary J. Knox departed this life at her home in Hoopeston, Aug. 10, 1875. She was born near New Concord, Muskingum Co., Ohio, and is the daughter of David Given, who came to Illinois in the fall of 1864.

Mr. Knox, in June, 1880, contracted a second marriage with Miss Jennie M. Bruce, of Wooster, Ohio, who was born in 1849. Of this union there are two children, a son, Robert R., and an infant daughter. Andrew J. Knox, the father of our subject, was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in 1818, and was there reared to manhood and married to Miss Mary J. Richards, about 1837. They lived on a farm in that county probably ten years, the father in the meantime also operating as a blacksmith. He is now retired from active labor, and makes his home in Fredericksburg, Ohio. The wife and mother died while a young woman, in 1844, leaving three children. The elder Knox was subsequently twice married. He has officiated as an Elder of the Presbyterian Church nearly half a

century, and as a Sunday-school Superintendant twenty-five years.

Robert M. Knox, like his father before him, has been diligent in church work, holding the office of Elder in the United Presbyterian Church at Hoopeston, and being connected with the Sunday-school as Superintendent and Assistant for many years. He is quiet and unassuming in his manners, and avoids placing himself before the public in an ostentatious way, perferring to transact his business with little noise or display. He has occupied many positions of trust and responsibility in connection with property matters, and enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of those with whom he has had dealings.

SAMUEL DALBEY. In every community there are lives which run still but deep, the lives of men who perhaps make but little stir in the world, and yet who are possessed of those qualities which have a sensible influence upon the people by whom they are surrounded, and an influence uniformly good. The fact that Mr. Dalbey probably has not an enemy in this community speaks well for his general character, habits and disposition, and he is recognized as a member of society who has contributed to its best interests as he has had opportunity, a father who has been faithful in the training and education of his children, and a neighbor uniformly kind, generous and obliging. He is conservative in politics on National questions, casting his vote with the Democratic party, but in local elections is not governed by party lines, aiming to support the men whom he considers best qualified to serve the interests of the people. In his younger years he was frequently sent as a delegate to the various Democratic conventions and did some good work for the advancement of his party. "The boys" as he calls his brothers, are equally divided between the two great political parties.

The biographer found Mr. Dalbey pleasantly located on a snug farm occupying a part of section 5 in Oakwood Township, and comprising 160 acres of finely improved land besides fifteen acres of timber. He has himself erected most of the buildings and effected nearly all of the improvements on the place. He makes a specialty of fine draft horses, and in company with his son, Verner R., owns the imported horse, "Plowshare," a son of the celebrated "Plowboy," of England, which was brought over in March, 1887, and is registered in the English stud book. They have in all about forty head of horses and a herd of thorough-bred Shorthorn cattle.

The subject of this sketch was born in Randolph County, Ind., Oct. 12, 1829, and is the son of Aaron and Nancy (Wright) Dalbey, who were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Indiana, the father born in 1797, and by trade a mill-wright and general mechanic. He served in the War of 1812, and came to Illinois in 1831, from Randolph County, Ind. He settled on the farm now owned by George Jones, and the year later later purchased 300 acres of land comprising the present farm of John McFarland and lived there until his decease, which took place in 1855. He was a prominent man in his community and erected the old mill located on South Fork. He was three times married, having five children by the first, two by the second, and four now living by the third wife. Our subject was the child of his second marriage, and is the only one living of that union. Mrs. Nancy (Wright) Dalbey, the mother of our subject, died in this county in 1833.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent mostly in this county to which his parents came where he was a mere child. He studied his first lessons in the old log school house with its stick chimney, slabs for seats and desks and greased paper for window panes, and therein learned the mysteries of reading, writing and ciphering. He attended school only about three months in the winter until he was twenty years of age. The country was very thinly settled and Indians still roamed over it. Our subject remained on the farm and worked with his father a year after reaching his majority. He was married Dec. 28, 1851, to Miss Sarah C. Watts, then rented his father's farm, one year and afterward rented a farm one mile north of the present site of Fithian, at a time when

there was but one house between him and Burr Oak Grove.

Industry and economy on the part of our subject soon bore their legitimate fruits, and in due time he was enabled to purchase 120 acres of land, the farm upon which Owen McKnight now lives. Two years later, however, he sold it, and his father having died, returned to the old homestead and lived with his step-mother for two years. In 1857, crossing the Mississippi with his family, he took up his residence in Lawrence, Kan., during the early struggles in that Territory and cast his vote for the admission of Kansas into the Union as a free State. He returned through Illinois and in the fall of that same year settled in Warren County, Ind., but a year later came back to Illinois and purchased the interest of one of the Cass heirs in the well-known farm of that name, which he occupied four years and which is situated near the Cass School-house. Upon selling that property he purchased his present farm.

To Mr. and Mrs. Dalbey there have been born seven children, the eldest of whom, a son, Franklin married Miss Seals; they have four children, and live one mile north of Fithian. Theresa A. E., is the wife of James Bantz; they have four children, and live just south of Muncie. Verner R., married Miss Sarah Lucas, is the father of five children and lives on the Fox farm; Mary E., remains at home with her parents. The next born were twins Ophelia and Otis. The former is at home; Otis married Miss Franie Henry, is the father of one child and lives southeast of Muncie; Rosa, the youngest, continues under the home roof. Mr. and Mrs. Dalbey and all their children, are members of the Baptist Church, in which Mr. Dalbey officiates as Deacon, and all are actively interested in the Sunday-school. In his district Mr. Dalbey has served as School Director and Trustee, and socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Newtown Lodge.

Mrs. Dalbey was the second child of her parents —John and Nancy (Jones) Watts, and was born Sept. 5, 1829. Her father was a farmer by occupation in Fountain County, Ind., and died when his daughter, Sarah C., was a mere child. The seven children comprising the parental household all lived to mature years. Sarah like her brothers and sisters, acquired her education in the subscription schools and developed into a teacher, following this profession some years before her marriage in Indiana. In due time she came to Illinois on a visit to her uncle Joseph Jones, who was a pioneer of this county and owned the farm where the village of Muncie is now located. After his death his widow sold the property to Edwin Corbley. In the meantime Mrs. Dalbey was married to our subject.

The house of Aaron Dalbey in those days was the best structure of the kind in the neighborhood and the only one for years which had glass window panes. It was a struggle for the farmers to support their families and make both ends meet, as corn in the crib would only sell for six and a fourth cents per bushel on a year's time. Our subject has hauled shelled corn to Fairmount for sixteen cents per bushel.

JOHN I. McDOWELL is one of the leading young men of Sidell Township. He is the son of Archibald McDowell, one of the early settlers of Vermilion County, and is the worthy son of a worthy sire. He has many sterling qualities that place him in the front rank in point of popularity. It always speaks well of any man in a community who is spoken of by name in an endearing manner, and the subject of this sketch is known as "Johnnie" McDowell, which appellation exhibits the popularity he enjoys with the citizens of Archie and Sidell, and in fact in all this portion of Vermilion County, as well as a part of Edgar County.

Mr. McDowell was born Nov. 23, 1861, on the old homestead, and is the first child by his father's second wife. His parents are both living, whose biography appears in another part of this ALBUM. He received his early impressions of business on a farm, and was taught that if a thing is worth doing at all, it is worth doing well, and this principle has been his guiding star. He obtained his education at the common schools, and being a bright scholar,

Yours
A. J. Arbuckle A. M. M. D. D. D. S

soon advanced to the head, until, at the age of twenty years, he became a Vermilion County teacher, conducting his first school in District No. 4, in Sidell Township. Here he was remarkably successful, as his kind ways and persuasive methods endeared him to all his pupils. When he became of age he engaged in the general merchandise business at Archie, and from the start has enjoyed a large and profitable trade, a distinction he has reached by reason of his fair dealings and manly methods. It would not be exaggeration to say his store was as well patronized as any other for miles around. But a disastrous fire which was attended with considerable loss destroyed his store building and stock, and since this he has directed his attention to teaching during the winter months and assisting on the old homestead in summer time, a fact which illustrates his capacity for turning to anything which circumstances throw in his way.

Mr. McDowell is a member of Peace Dale Lodge, I. O. O, F., which is located at Sidell, and is an enthusiastic Odd Fellow. In his political views he is a Democrat, and is an ardent advocate of anything that will honorably promote the interests of his party. Being public spirited and popular it is a safe prediction to make that John I. McDowell is a rising man.

ALPHONSO T. ARBUCKLE, A. M., M. D., D. D. S., one of the best established physicians and surgeons of this county, was born in Symmes Township, Edgar County, this State, Dec. 20, 1856, and is the son of Samuel Ross Arbuckle, a native of Knox County, Ohio. His paternal grandfather, Samuel Ross Arbuckle, Sr., was born in West Virginia and was the son of Samuel Arbuckle, a native of Scotland. The latter emigrated to America at an early day, when a young man, and settling in the Old Dominion was there married to a lady whose name was Elizabeth Berry. He engaged in farming pursuits and became the father of seventeen sons and three daughters. His son, Samuel R., Sr., was reared in his native county and married Miss Rebecca Meacher, a native of that State and of Scotch-Irish ancestry. They emigrated to Ohio during the pioneer days of Knox County, and sojourned there until 1827. They then changed their residence to Symmes, Hamilton Co., Ohio, where Grandfather Arbuckle kept a hotel known as the "Sixteen Mile Stand."

This property is now owned by our subject. There were then no railroads in Ohio, and Grandfather Arbuckle engaged in teaming from Cincinnati to Logansport and Indianapolis, driving six horses to a vehicle, and transporting general merchandise. He died in 1875 at the advanced age of eighty-two years. Many and great were the changes which he witnessed in his adopted State where he lived to see the country developed from a wilderness into farms, villages and cities, with the iron horse rushing across the hills and valleys, which when he settled among them had been scarcely disturbed by the foot of a white man.

Grandmother Arbuckle passed away one year prior to the decease of her husband, dying in 1874. They reared nine children—four sons and five daughters—and Samuel Ross, Jr., the father of our subject, was six years old when they took up their abode in Hamilton County, Ohio. He was there reared to man's estate and in 1854 came to Edgar County, Ill., where he lived one year, then removed to Macon County, sojourning there two years; at the expiration of this time he returned to Edgar in limited circumstances, the removal having been made overland with teams, to Symmes Township, Edgar Co., Ill. There the father of our subject purchased a sawmill which he operated while clearing the timber from his land. At the time of his settlement in Illinois there was but one store upon the present site of Paris. He put up a log house containing one room and in that the subject of this sketch was born. The father is still living and is a resident of Embarrass Township, Edgar County, Ill. He now owns a farm of 520 acres, embellished with fine buildings and well stocked and there is every reason to suppose will spend his declining years amid all the comforts of life.

Mrs. Lamanda (Vandervert) Arbuckle, the mother of our subject, was born in 1829 in Fayette County, Pa., and is the daughter of James and Margaret Vandervert. Her family consisted of five

children: The eldest daughter, Medora, became the wife of Zolora Green, and they reside in Oakland, Coles Co., Ill. Alphonso T., our subject, was the second born; Byron E., occupies the home farm in Edgar County, Ill.; James L., is a traveling salesman; Walter V. is pursuing his studies in the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill.

Our subject was reared in his native county and acquired his classical education in Paris, Ill., being a graduate from the High School there in 1876 with the degree of A. M. There also he began the study of medicine in 1881 with Dr. William H. Tenbroeck, with whom he remained two years. He next entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which, after a three years' course, he graduated in 1886. Two years of this time he practiced in Cook County Hospital, and in the winter of 1885 and 1886 gave his attention especially to dental surgery and was graduated. He commenced the practice of his profession at Sidell on the 8th of March, of that year, and eighteen months later came to Danville, of which he has since been a resident and where he has built up an extensive and lucrative practice. He is popular among all classes and gives that conscientious attention to the details of his calling which invariably brings success.

Dr. Arbuckle was married Dec. 14, 1877, at the bride's home in Sidell Township, this county, to Miss Mary E. Rowand. Mrs. Arbuckle was born near Springfield, Ohio, in 1861, and is the daughter of Rev. Edward and Margaret Rowand, the former deceased, while the mother still survives, and lives in Sidell. The Doctor and his wife occupy a neat home at No. 821 East Fairchild street, and enjoy the acquaintance of the best people of the city. Our subject is a member of the Medical Alumni Association of Chicago, and occupies a position in the front ranks of the fraternity in this part of the State. He meddles very little with political matters, aside from casting his vote for the man of his choice.

Mrs. Arbuckle is considered one of the most accomplished ladies in Danville, being a graduate of a literary school, in which she ranked among the best of the pupils, being ambitious in her studies and quick to learn, while her retentive memory easily retained what it once grasped. She is also considered an expert in all kinds of fancy work, and is a graduate of a fine art school. She occupies a front rank in the best society of the town she makes her home, and is welcomed into the most select circles, which her education and refinement fit her to adorn.

Mr. Arbuckle is represented elsewhere in this volume by a fine portrait, which perpetuates the features of a man well-known and highly respected among the entire community.

CALVIN STEARNS is one of the good citizens and prudent farmers whose industry and perseverance have placed him in an enviable position in his community. He is the third child of Harvey and Fannie (Lockwood) Stearns and was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Oct. 28, 1820, and when he was twelve years of age removed with his parents to Illinois, locating in Vermilion County, where he has since resided.

In those early days education was considered a secondary necessity. If the parents of the pioneer boy had no work for him to do, he was sent to school, but on the other hand, if he was needed at home for anything at all, the school was neglected. Mr. Stearns was a typical pioneer boy. His limited schooling was received in the old-fashioned log school-house and under the inspiration of the ever present birch rod. But despite all these difficulties he has accumulated knowledge enough to entitle him to be called a fairly educated man. The elder Stearns built a sawmill on Salt Fork, and there Calvin worked until he left home, which was at the time of his marriage—in 1843—taking for his wife Miss Priscilla Lee, a daughter of Henry Lee, and a sister to Mrs. Alvin Stearns. The young couple began house-keeping in a small frame house on the old homestead, where his father gave him eighty acres of timber. Mrs. Stearns died June 10, 1850, leaving one daughter, Eveline. In 1853 Mr. Stearns took for his second wife Mary Rogers. He then purchased his present place and improved it by building a house and the necessary outbuildings, and planting trees. By his last union Mr.

Stearns was the father of a daughter—Mary H., who married Francis Cronkhite, who lives two miles and a half northeast of Muncie, Ill. They have five children. Mr. Stearns' second wife died in October, 1859 and her mother lived with him as housekeeper until his third marriage, which occurred in 1867 to Clarinda Cronkhite. By this marriage he is the father of two children—one boy and one girl, William C. and Lilley M., both of whom are unmarried and live at home.

Mr. Stearns cultivates eighty acres of fine prairie land and owns nineteen acres of timber. His farm is a model one, though not extensive, and everything connected with it denotes thrift and intelligence. He has been a sufferer financially by reason of his good nature in indorsing a note for a friend who betrayed his confidence, and while he has had a hard time to recover from the effects of this swindle, he nevertheless is prospering. The office of School Director has been held by him, a position in which he has given satisfaction. Mr. Stearns is a member of the German Baptist Church and his wife also worships in the same faith. He is a member of Homer Lodge of Masons, and politically is conservative, but always votes the Republican ticket at the National elections, and in local affairs chooses those for the office whom he knows are good men, regardless of political affiliations.

ANTHONY LEE ANKRUM is a genial, whole-souled farmer and stock-raiser of Elwood Township, where he owns a fine farm on section 29. His father, David, was born in Virginia, whence he removed to Belmont County, Ohio, in the early days of the Republic. He was a weaver by trade, his specialty being table linen, coverlets, etc. Anthony still has some of the coverlets his father manufactured and which he considers very valuable as heirlooms.

The grandfather, Archibald Ankrum, was a native of the north of Ireland and emigrated to America when a young married man. Anthony's uncle, George Ankrum, was a soldier who made a good record in the war of 1812. The grandfather had three sons, George, David and John. The latter went to New Orleans and was never heard from. Anthony's mother was a daughter of Robert Boak, and her name was Abigail. She was the mother of thirteen children, seven of whom are living: George W., Anthony Lee, John, Elwood, David, Wesley and Harrison. One son, Asa, whose biography is printed in this work, died, leaving a family; another son, Allen, passed away in his nineteenth year; the good mother died on Feb. 18, 1857, while the father survived until Feb. 16, 1867.

Anthony L. Ankrum was born in Belmont County, Ohio, on Sept. 18, 1828. He was married to Miss Lydia A. Smith, on Aug. 31, 1854. She was the daughter of Isaac Smith, a native of Greene County, East Tennessee, and a prominent citizen of his county. He was born in Berkley Co., Va., Feb. 18, 1832. Her mother was Martha Ross, daughter of Enos Ross. He went out on the first boat that ever floated on the Ohio River. The vessel was lost and Mr. Ross was never heard from.

Mrs. Ankrum's parents have seven children: William and Mary (deceased), David, Hannah, John, Mrs. Ankrum and Isaac. Mr. and Mrs. Ankrum were the parents of six children, two of whom are living: Martha E. and William B.; one daughter, Allie B., died after she had attained maturity; she was married to Charles Foster, and left one child, who has since died. One son, Harry L. died in his twenty-first year; he was physically disabled and a graduate of the Ridge Farm High School; he had just begun teaching school, having taught one term when he died. Martha married James Fletcher (for a record of her children see sketch of John Fletcher). William B. married Alice Barker; he lives with his father and assists in managing the old homestead.

Mr. Ankrum owns 186 acres of land and is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He has on his farm a fine herd of graded cattle and also a lot of Poland-China hogs, each one of which would be a prize winner. He takes great pride in raising and feeding his stock, and out of them he makes a great deal of money. His farming operations have been very successful, and since he has

come here he has been devoted to his business. His first place of settlement was with his parents, in 1838, at Yankee Point, in Elwood Township, where he has resided continuously since. His wife emigrated to this township in 1836, locating near Georgetown, where her parents both died. Her father passed away when he was fifty-two years old, while her mother died in December, 1874.

Mr. Ankrum is a stalwart Republican in politics, though he never has sought office of any sort. He has held the position of Road Overseer and with satisfaction to his constituents. The office of Treasurer in the Masonic Lodge has been held by him, and he has also been a Trustee and Steward of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Ridge Farm. Vermilion County contains no better citizen than Anthony Lee Ankrum.

THOMAS B. HUMPHREYS. Few men in Ross Township are more widely known than this honorable pioneer and none are more generally respected. He is a man plain in speech and manners, contented with plain and comfortable surroundings, but a thorough and skillful farmer, and owns 200 acres of the most valuable and fertile land in this vicinity. Under his careful management it produces in abundance the rich crops of the Prairie State, yielding to the proprietor a generous income and enabling him like Longfellow's "Blacksmith," to "look the whole world in the face," as not owing any man.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, John Humphreys by name, was a native of North Carolina where it supposed he was married and reared his family and where undoubtedly his son, Jonathan B., the father of our subject, was born. The latter when reared to man's estate was married about 1815, to Miss Nancy Johnston and to them there was born one child, a daughter, Deborah, before their removal to the North. About 1817, they changed their location to Harrison County, Ind., settling on a tract of land in the woods and where their son, Thomas B., our subject, was born June 27, 1818. It was probably four years later, about 1822, when they removed from Harrison to Putnam County, Ind., settling in the heavy timber where the chief amusement of Thomas B., in his boyhood was picking up and burning brush, alternated occasionally with the recreation of fishing. He assisted his father in the clearing of the farm at a time when bears and wolves roamed through the forest, and the latter often made night hideous near the cabin of the pioneer.

The mother of the family spun and wove wool and flax and manufactured most of their clothing. In his boyhood our subject much of the time wore "leather breeches," made from the skins of deer. His first pair of boots were purchased when he was nearly a man grown, for $2.50. Prior to this the father had made the shoes worn by the family. The Indians had not then left Putnam County, and were frequently seen skulking through the forest stealing when they could, but offering no particular molestation to the family. The father of our subject died in Putnam County, Ind., about 1832. He had, prior to this time come to this county and purchased a farm, building upon it a log house for future occupancy, but upon returning to his family, was soon afterward seized with the fatal illness which terminated in his death. The mother and children then remained in Indiana until the latter were nearly grown, coming to this county in 1838. A few years later the mother died leaving five children, namely: Deborah, Thomas B., our subject, Barbara A., Mary J., and Margaret B., of whom three are living. She and her husband were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The old home farm of the Humphreys family was in Blount Township, this county, from which they hauled their grain and drove their stock to Chicago to market. Some times they would drive their hogs to Wabash, Ind., and have them slaughtered there, receiving two and one-half to three and one-half cents per pound.

The subject of this sketch was married in Danville, this county, in 1842, to Miss Rachel, daughter of Albert Cossart, one of the earliest pioneers of this county. Of this union there were born two sons--Albert, now a resident of Barber County, Kan.; and Samuel, who operates the home farm. Mrs. Rachel Humphreys departed this life in De-

cember, 1877. She was a lady possessing many excellent qualities and was a consistent member of the Christian Church. Mr. Humphreys has 160 acres in the homestead proper, besides forty acres of timber formerly belonging to the old home farm of his father. He has given to each of his sons a part of his original purchase. The home of Mr. Humphreys is one to which the people of the neighborhood love to resort. Although making no pretentions to style or elegance, there is about the dwelling an air of comfort and hospitality which invariably goes to the heart.

SANFORD S. DICKSON, one of the most enterprising business men of Muncie and its leading grain merchant, is numbered among its most prominent citizens and is very popular both in its business and social circles. Genial, gentlemanly and possessing more than ordinary abilities, he is following up a career which thus far has been excessively prosperous with a fair outlook for the future. He has an attractive home, an accomplished and amiable partner, and apparently everything around him to make life pleasant and desirable.

In reverting to the family history of our subject we find that he is the son of Simon A. Dickson, a native of this county and was born in 1833. The Dickson family was originally from Kentucky, from which the paternal grandfather of our subject emigrated to Illinois in 1824, settling near Indianola, this county. In this vicinity Simon spent his boyhood and youth until the outbreak of the Civil War. In 1862 he enlisted in Company C, 125th Illinois Infantry, participating in the battle at Perryville and shortly afterward was taken ill with pneumonia and died in the hospital at Nashville, Tenn., June 2, 1863.

The mother of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Hiram C. Catlin, a native of Parke County, Ind. He laid out the town of Catlin which was named in his honor, and died in 1871 at the advanced age of nearly ninety years. He carried on farming, and became a prominent man in his community. After the death of Simon A. Dickson, his widow was married to Dr. Samuel T. Smith in 1866, and they now live in Hernando County, Fla. To the parents of our subject there were born four children—Wilbur T., Oliver P., Hiram C., and Sanford S., all of whom are living.

The subject of this notice was the eldest child of his parents and was born in Indianola, this county, July 22, 1855. His education was acquired in the district school, which he attended mostly winters until about eighteen years old. He commenced his business career as a clerk in the store of John Littler at Fithian, where he remained about one year, then took a position under Mr. J. A. Cowles, who had bought out Mr. Littler. On the 1st of January, 1877, he became a partner of his employer and on the 27th of that month they removed their stock of goods to Muncie establishing the first store of general merchandise in the place. On the 1st of January, 1886, the firm was dissolved, Mr Dickson purchasing the interest of his partner and since that time has carried on business alone, making of it a pronounced success. He carries a full stock of all the articles required in the city and country household and, as the most extensive grain dealer in this part of the county, handles thousands of dollars' worth of this commodity each year. He owns a three-fourths interest in a farm two and one-half miles north of Fithian, which is operated by a tenant and comprises 160 acres of good land. He also has the county agency for the Davis Sewing machine, keeping two wagons and two men on the road all the year round.

Mr. Dickson started out in life for himself at the early age of sixteen years and is one of the foremost young business men of Vermilion County. He was married Jan. 29, 1879, to Miss Olive, daughter of M. W. Selby, of West Virginia, the wedding taking place in Fithian. The Selby family came to Illinois in 1866 and settled four miles north of Catlin, this county, where they lived five years. Thence they removed to Fithian, where Mr. Selby became connected with the mercantile business of Booker & Littler, and has followed merchandising since that time. The Selby family for the last nine years have been residents of Muncie. Of their five children only two are living

—Mrs. Dickson and her brother, Calvin, the latter of whom is a resident of Vance Township.

Mrs. Dickson was the fourth child of her parents and was born in Palatine, Marion Co., W. Va., Sept. 5, 1856. She received the rudiments of of a good education in her native State and completed it in the schools of this county. She was a bright and ambitious girl and after leaving school was for a time employed as a clerk in a store in Muncie. She possesses considerable literary ability and for the last four years has been the regular correspondent from Muncie, of the Danville *News*. Of her union with our subject there have been born three children, one of whom died in infancy. The eldest, Lola M., is attending school at Muncie. Fred C. is a promising little lad eight years of age.

Mr. Dickson was Postmaster at Muncie from 1879 to 1885 and was the Assistant-postmaster after resigning the chief position. He was elected Supervisor of Oakwood Township in the spring of 1888 and re-elected in 1889. He has officiated as School Director in his district; politically, uniformly votes the straight Republican ticket, with which party he has been identified since reaching majority. Socially, he belongs to the I. O. O. F. and with his estimable wife inclines to the doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but there being no society of this denomination in Muncie they attend upon other services.

Magruder W. Selby, the father of Mrs. Dickson, enlisted on the 25th of February, 1864 as a private in Company L, 6th West Virginia Cavalry. He was first promoted to Quartermaster, then to Sergeant and in April, 1864, to the rank of Second-Lieutenant. In October following he was promoted to First-Lieutenant. The regiment was stationed for a time at Moorfield, Va., and later at New Creek. Some of the men including Lieut. Selby were captured by the enemy, but the latter made his escape. They fought with the bushwhackers in the vicinity of Beverly and for a time were stationed in Cumberland, Md., guarding the railroad. Prior to Lee's surrender the regiment had been ordered to Richmond, and afterward it was sent to Camp Relief at Washington, D. C. Here they were detailed as mounted patrol of the city, in which they remained until after the grand review. Thence they were ordered to Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., and later crossed the plains to Ft. Casper, Dak., arriving there in October, 1865 and were stationed as a guard along the American telegraph lines over the old Pony Express Route. They had several skirmishes with the Black Feet, Sioux and Cheyenne Indians.

On the 1st of January, 1866, Lieut. Selby was made Assistant-Quartermaster and Commissary on the staff of Gen. Wheaton, and on the 1st of April following they were ordered back to Ft. Leavenworth, where they arrived May 14 and remained about two weeks. The regiment was then mustered out and ordered to Wheeling, W. Va., where they received their final discharge June 1, 1866.

CHARLES W. BAUM, of Carroll Township, is the offspring of an old and prominent family which three generations back was of the royal blood of Poland. His paternal grandfather, Charles W. Baum, a native of Poland, was banished from his birth-place during the troubles of that unhappy country and fled to Germany where he sojourned until coming to America, during the colonial days and about the time of the Revolutionary War. It is not known just how long he sojourned in the Fatherland, but he learned to speak and read the German language fluently, although it is possible that he had also been taught this in his native country, as being of high birth, he received a thorough education.

After coming to America, Grandfather Baum served as a militia man on the reserve force in the American army, protecting the frontier. During that period he won and wedded Miss Barbara McDonald, a relative of Gen. McDonald of Marion's staff. He served several years as a soldier and the year after Gen. (Mad Anthony) Wayne's treaty with the Indians, removed from Bucks County, Pa., to the farther West. Sailing down the Ohio River and landing near the mouth of Bullskin Creek, he made the first settlement in Ohio. From him sprang the Baums of America

and the first representative of the family in this county, was Samuel Baum, a brother of the subject of this sketch.

Charles W. Baum, the third of the name and the the subject of this notice, was born in Clermont County, Ohio, April 4, 1815, and was the sixth in a family of ten children who were named respectively, Samuel; John; Mary, Mrs. Weaver; Sarah, Mrs. Vantreese; Catherine, Mrs. Patterson; Charles, our subject; Susan, Mrs. Sandusky; Elizabeth, who died at the age of seven years; Gideon N. and Eliza, Mrs. Carter. Charles W., like his brothers and sisters, was reared on the farm, received a common-school education and was trained to habits of industry and economy. His father was a man of more than ordinary enterprise and although of German parentage, learned to speak and read the English language and gave much attention to the education of his children.

Samuel Baum in making his journey to Illinois was accompanied by his wife's father, old Michael Weaver and it is hardly necessary to say, made the journey overland by team, starting from Ohio, Oct. 12, 1827, and arriving in this county on the 12th of November following. They had stopped for a short time in Parke County, Ind., having intended to settle there, but Mr. Weaver did not like the appearance of things in that region and so they pushed on further westward, settling among the Alexanders and McDonalds of this county. In due time they were joined by Charles W., our subject, who was the second Baum to come West. He made the journey alone on horseback and was about eighty days on the road, arriving at the house of his brother Samuel, Dec. 26, 1836.

Our subject soon took up 160 acres of land from the Government and made subsequent purchases until at one time he was the owner of 1660 acres besides 200 acres given his wife by her father. When it is remembered that he came to this region with very little means it must be acknowledged that he was remarkably successful in the accumulation of property. After coming to this county he was married March 14, 1839, to Miss Catherine Weaver, who was the fourth daughter and sixth child in a family of twelve children.

Mrs. Baum like her husband was born in Clermont County, Ohio, June 28, 1818, and when an infant of six months her parents removed to Brown County, that State. Mr. Weaver, a very energetic and industrious man, improved several farms and became quite wealthy. He bore the reputation of great honesty and integrity with a stern sense of justice, and loaned large sums of money at six per cent. interest, steadily refusing a higher rate although he might easily have secured it. He sold his corn at twenty five cents per bushel although he could have obtained fifty cents, his motto being "live and let live." He put his own shoulder to the wheel and was one of the hardest workers of his time. When more than sixty years old he made three trips a year to Chicago, engaged in hauling bacon and other produce. He was a man who attracted to himself many warm friends and he lived to be a few months over one hundred years old. His birthplace was Washington County, Md., and he was the son of a rich planter who was excessively patriotic and enlisting in the army rendered efficient service. He died when Michael was but four years old, at the age of ninety-six years. He had been married on the very farm whereon was fought the battle of Antietam during the late Rebellion. His wife, Mary Spessard, also a native of Washington County, Md., lived to be ninety years old and she had a brother who lived to the great age of one hundred and five years.

The childhood days of Mrs. Baum were spent in her native county where she attended school and became proficient in the common branches. Although quite young when the family came to this State she still remembers many of the incidents of the journey and the old Alexander school-house which was the first of its kind within the limits of Carroll Township. It was a large, log structure, 18x21 feet square with a "cat and clay" chimney and the other finishings of that primitive time.

Of the twelve children born of this union the eldest, Celestine A., is the wife of William T. Hunt, and they reside in the Indian Territory; Jasper N., married a Miss Stewart and owns over 600 acres of land, his residence being in Young America Township; they have four children, Blanche, Georgia, Dollie and Weaver, the two latter twins. Charles Cyrus married first a Miss Gilky, and be-

came the father of one child—Lelia E. His wife died and he was then married to Miss Josie Baum and they live on a large farm in Carroll Township; A. Jacob, a resident of Sidell, owns a farm in Sidell Township and makes a specialty of breeding fine horses; he married a Miss Rowand and they have five children—Charles, Lelia C., Spessard and Estelle (twins) and George Roy. Gideon P. married a Miss Lucas and is the father of two children—Lulie W. and Earl L; he operates a large farm in Carroll Township. George B. McC. married a Miss Rawlings and is the father of two children—Opie and Wilbert; he conducts a livery stable in Ridge Farm and owns a farm in Carroll Township. The deceased children are Marcus D., who died at the age of two years; Orintha, who died when ten years old; James H., who died at the age of two years; two infants who died unnamed, and John W. who died when two years old.

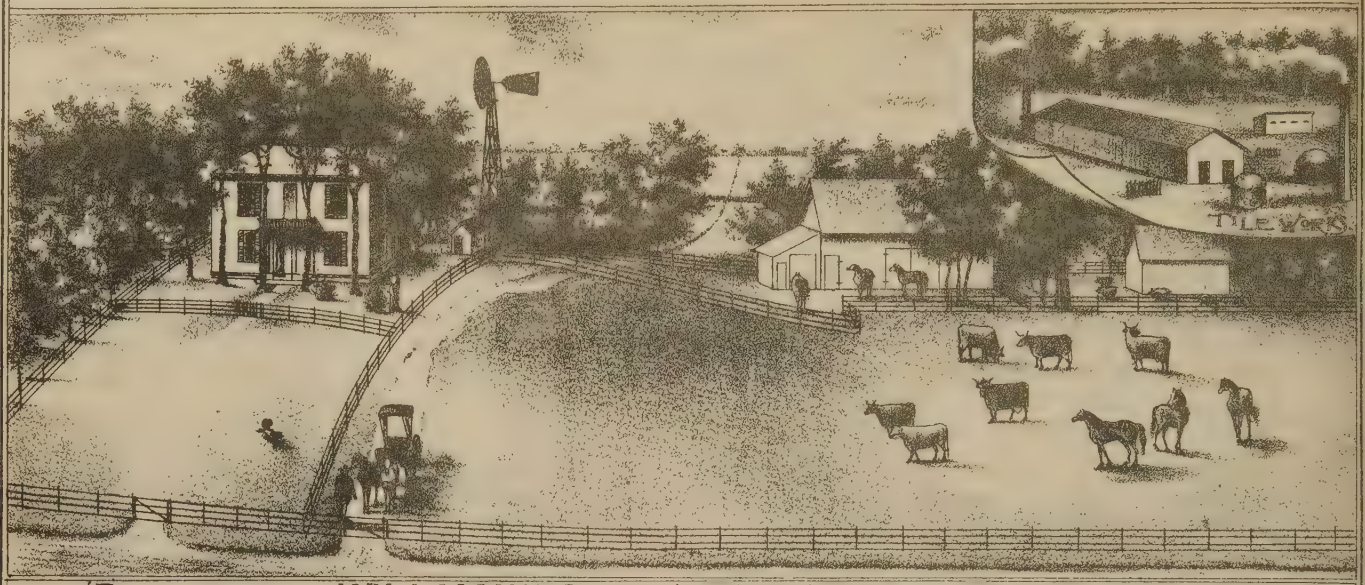
To each of his children who have started out in life for themselves Mr. Baum has given a good farm. They have been provided with a practical education and are well fitted to make their own way in the world. The present homestead of our subject and his estimable wife was given to the latter by her father, Michael Weaver. Although mixing very little with political affairs Mr. Baum keeps himself posted upon matters of general interest and uniformly supports the principles of the Democratic party.

HENRY J. BENNETT. The man of nerve and muscle and perseverance, who bends his energies to the scientific tilling of the soil, is one of those forming the bone and sinew of the industrial community without which the world could make little progress. Here and there we find one who ennobles his calling, adding dignity, wealth and strength to the nation. The subject of this notice operates in a skillful and intelligent manner a good farm of 160 acres in Sidell Township, where he is held in the highest respect by all classes of citizens. He possesses more than ordinary intelligence, energy and forethought, and has the best wishes of hosts of friends for continued prosperity.

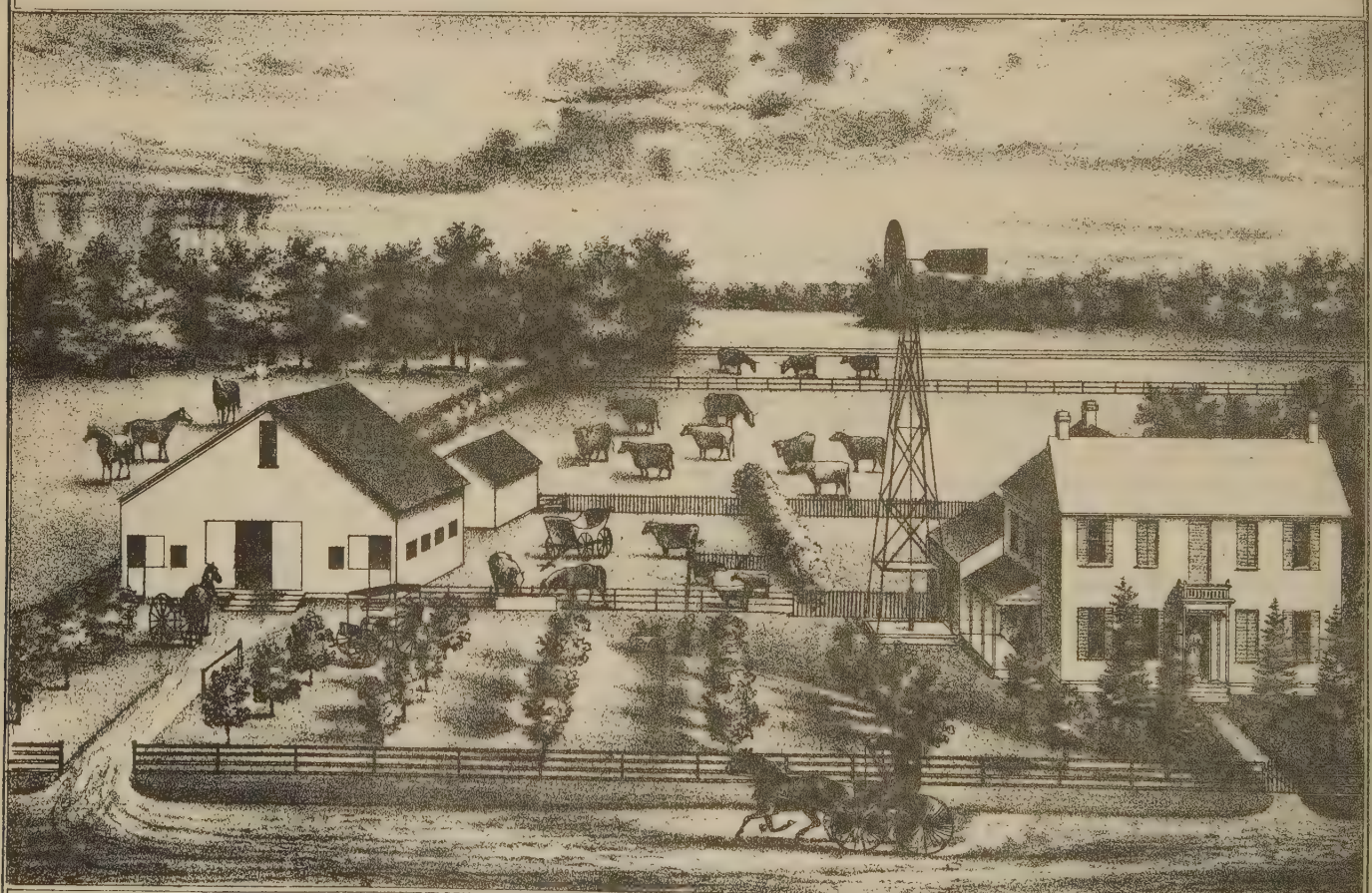
Mr. Bennett was born in Catlin Township, this county, and is the son of Philander and Sarah Ann (Wolfe) Bennett, who are natives respectively of New York State and Virginia. The mother was a member of the old well-known Wolfe family which was represented in America at an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett came unmarried to this county. Grandfather Wolfe was one of the earliest settlers here and located on the banks of South Fork Creek, where he established a home in the wilderness some time prior to the tide of immigration, which redeemed the wilderness around from its original condition. He had many a battle with the Indians, also with wild animals. He made some improvements on his land, which subsequently became familiarly known as the old Wolfe homestead. Our subject has seen forest trees and some apple trees which were undoubtedly planted by the hand of his grandfather, the former of which now form a dense thicket.

After their marriage the parents of our subject settled in Catlin Township, where the father occupied himself as a millwright, putting up the old Harris Mill and several other structures of the kind in this county. Both he and his estimable wife are still living on a farm in Edgar County, the father being seventy-three years old and the mother sixty-four. They have seven children living: Ann E., Henry J., DeWitt C., Mary E. Jacob F., Ida M. and Allie M.

Henry J. Bennett was born Feb. 16, 1847, in Catlin Township, where he was brought up on a farm and was never outside the county until becoming of age. When twenty-two years old he began working out by the month for that well known citizen, John Sidell, with whom he remained six years—a fact which speaks well for both. After this he operated considerably as a carpenter. In the meantime he was married in 1879 to Miss Melissa A., daughter of John Stark, one of the leading men of Sidell Township, where Mrs. Bennett was born. They have three daughters: Washtella, Fra and Sarah A. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. Our subject is a charter member of the



RESIDENCE OF WM J. MANN. SEC. 11. (T 18-R 13) CATLIN TP, VERMILION COUNTY.



RESIDENCE OF WM SMITH. SEC. 1. (T. 18-R. 14) VANCE TP, VERMILION COUNTY.

Modern Woodmen Camp at Sidell and at the time of its organization was installed its first banker. He served his term and was then elected Advisor. He is also a member of Peace Dale Lodge, No. 225, I. O. O. F., at Sidell.

Mrs. Bennett was born in Carroll Township and grew to womanhood on her father's farm, being married at the age of twenty-two years. Her parents were natives of Kentucky, and the mother, formerly Miss Mary A. (Cassady), was born in Bourbon County, Ky. They were married in the Blue Grass State, where their two eldest children were born. Thence they came to Illinois and settled near the place which was named Stark's Grove in honor of the father. He became well-to-do, and died at the age of sixty years; the mother died at the age of fifty-nine. Their fourteen children were named respectively, Jerry, Jefferson, Henry (who died young), Madison, William, Hannah, Joel, Belle, Samuel, Monroe, Henry, Robert, Melissa A. and Josephine W.

WILLIAM SMITH is one of the solid, influential farmers of Vance Township. His parents came to Illinois in the fall of 1829. His father's name was James Smith, and he was a native of Ohio, where he was engaged in farming. His mother, whose maiden name was Mary Sewell, was also born in the same State.

When the parents of Mr. Smith removed to Vermilion County, three other families accompanied them, but there are none of their representatives living in this county except the subject of this sketch. His father was the first to settle in this immediate neighborhood, where he entered 800 acres of land and during his life improved nearly all of it, giving each of his children a portion. James Smith was a very careful man and settled up all his affairs before his death. He was the father of five children, four boys and one girl, of whom there are three now living. He died in 1872, his wife preceding him to the grave ten years.

William Smith was the third child of his family and was born June 12, 1827, near Springfield, Ohio, and when he was but two years of age, his parents removed to Illinois. He received his early education in an old log school-house, situated on his father's land. When he was eighteen years of age he ceased going to school and remained at work on his father's farm until he was twenty-one. The fall after he had attained his majority, he drove a team, in company with sixteen others, to Austin, Tex., the journey occupying ninety days. This was forty years ago and he remained there until March 1, 1849, when he walked from Austin to Houston, Tex., took passage on a boat to Galveston, from there across the Gulf of Mexico on a steamer to New Orleans, thence up the Mississippi to the mouth of the Ohio, ascending that stream to where the Wabash intersects it, then to Perryville, Ind. He then walked to Danville and from there home. In the winter of 1848-49 the cholera was raging and four deaths occurred on the same boat that brought him up the Mississippi River.

Mr. Smith was married May 9, 1849 to Miss Lucy A. Saddler, daughter of William and Keziah (Brooks) Saddler, natives of Richmond, Va. They settled in this county in an early day and were the parents of seven children, two of these being from Mr. Saddler's second marriage, Mrs. Smith's mother having died shortly after locating in Illinois. Mrs. Smith was the fifth child of this family, and was born June 8, 1829, near Richmond, Va. She attended school in a log house, about three miles from her present home. Her father died in 1864. After marriage Mr. Smith removed to the farm he now owns and occupies; it then belonging to his father who gave each of his children 120 acres of land with which to start in life. Mr. Smith has made four trips to and from Texas, three by team, and one by railroad. On one of these journeys the trip was made on horseback. In 1876 he visited the Centennial at Philadelphia, and March 4, 1889 was present at Harrison's inauguration, and while on that trip, visited Mt. Vernon; he has been a great traveler and has visited nearly all points of interest in this country.

Mr. Smith is now the owner of a fine farm of 320 acres in one body, and under a high state of cultivation. He raises horses, cattle and hogs, and conducts a general farming business. Some very

fine horses of the Norman, Clydesdale and Englishshire draft horses, and also Short-horn cattle may be seen on this splendid farm. On the whole, Mr. Smith has been a very successful farmer. Four boys and two girls constitute Mr. and Mrs. Smith's family. James Everett married Laura Price, who died in 1887, leaving three little boys to mourn her loss; William E., is now living in Iowa, and his son, Lester, is now living with his grandfather, Smith; Byron married Emma Black, they reside on the old homestead and are the parents of two girls; Abraham L. married Cora Baldwin, and they also reside on the father's old homestead; Mary Belle is the wife of Andy Yount; Sadie Jane lives at home. Mr. Smith has two brothers living, his only sister dying in 1850. His brother James is living in San Antonio, Tex., while David is a farmer in Guthrie County, Iowa; his brother John died last summer in Dallas County, Iowa, leaving five children, all of whom have grown to maturity.

Mr. Smith has retired from active farming and by his industrious and intelligent manners has earned a competency and is entitled to the rest he is now enjoying. He has always taken an active interest in politics and has invariably voted the Republican ticket since the organization of that party. The offices of School Director and Road Overseer have been filled by him in his usual pains-taking manner. Socially, he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and is temperate in all things. In the community, where Mr. and Mrs. Smith have lived sixty years, they command the universal respect of all their neighbors.

As representing one of the beautiful homes in this county, a view of the residence of our subject and his family is given on another page of this volume.

WILLIAM J. MANN. Catlin Township has no better representative of its agricultural and manufacturing interests than this gentleman, who has long been identified by the shrewd, intelligent farmers, owning and managing a valuable farm on section 11, and for some time he has been actively engaged in the manufacture of tile. He comes of fine old stock, and was born in what is now West Virginia, in Monroe County, Oct. 20, 1824. His father, likewise named William, was a native of the Old Dominion, one of the F. F. V's., and his mother, whose maiden name was Rhoda Stodghill, was also a Virginian by birth. The parents of our subject began their wedded life in their native State, living amid its beautiful scenery till 1856, when they sought to establish a new home in the Prairie State, and they spent the remainder of their lives in Sidell Township, where he died March 16, 1858, and she March 10, 1878. They left to their children and children's children the precious legacy of an honorable name, and the memory of exemplary lives. They had a family of six children, of whom our subject was the eldest son and the fourth child in order of birth.

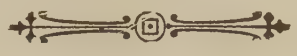
He remained at home till he was twenty-one, and the following year went to Alabama. Having prior to that time learned dentistry, he followed that profession in that State for some two years. At the expiration of that time he returned to the Shenandoah Valley in Eastern Virginia, and passed the ensuing eight years there, actively engaged at his profession. He then returned to his native county, and after remaining there two years, he sought green fields and pastures new in the West, and making his way to Monroe County, Mo., opened an office for the practice of dentistry there. Two years after that, in 1859, he came to Vermilion County, this State, and established himself as a dentist at Fairmount, continuing there till the breaking out of the war, when he gave his attention wholly to agricultural pursuits. He afterward returned with his family to Virginia on account of his wife's ill-health, the entire journey being made in a private conveyance, and they remained there three years. After his return to this State, Mr. Mann resumed farming, and now owns a farm of 205 acres, that is well tilled, and supplied with a substantial set of buildings, including a handsome dwelling beautifully located on section 11, on Blue Mound. A view of this attractive farm residence appears on another page, and adds much to the value of the ALBUM. The place is amply supplied with all the machinery and appliances for facilitating farm labors. In 1881 our subject

formed a partnership with David Vaughn to engage in the manufacture of tile, and he also operated a sawmill with him. They remained together till 1884, when Mr. Vaughn withdrew from the firm, and Mr. Mann has since carried on the business alone. He manufactures a superior kind of tile, which commands a large sale on its own merits, and is reaping great profits therefrom.

Mr. Mann was married to Miss Elizabeth F. Thompson April 2, 1851, in Augusta County, Va. Mrs. Mann was a native of that county, her birth taking place there in 1824. She was a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Beard) Thompson, who died in that county. Five children were born of the wedded life of our subject and his amiable wife: Mary, the wife of Rev. Luther Hendrick; William T., who married Miss Lizzie Farrin; Walter; George, who married a Miss Conklin; Emma and an infant son, Ellis, deceased.

Aug. 30, 1887, death crossed the threshold of the happy home of our subject, and she who was the home-maker, the loved wife and mother, was taken from the stricken family. She was a woman of deep, noble character, in whom the Christian virtues were exemplified. She was kindness itself, and her charity knew no bounds, her large heart overflowing with tender sympathy toward the needy and suffering. She was one of the most active and prominent members of the Presbyterian Church, and in early life was a Sunday-school teacher; the church and society at large sustained with her family an irreparable loss.

Mr. Mann is a true gentleman, ever courteous and genial in his intercourse with others, and his frank, kindly nature has won him a warm place in the hearts of his neighbors and numerous other friends. In his career in life he has met with assured success in the various vocations that he has pursued, and is numbered among the moneyed men of his township, as well as one of her most trustworthy citizens. He is a man of earnest religious feelings, and has long been connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Fairmount, of which he is Deacon, and his fellow-members always find him ready to aid in carrying out any plan for the moral or the social elevation of the community. Politically, he is a loyal supporter of the Democratic party. He has held various school offices, and takes considerable interest in educational affairs, as all intelligent, public-spirited citizens ought to do.



SQUIRE H. E. P. TALBOTT is one of the most influential men in Sidell Township, where he owns and operates a large farm. His father and mother, Augustine and Josella (Parker) Talbott, were natives of Bourbon County, Ky. The father was a merchant at Millersburg, that State, for several years, but having become security for other people too largely, he failed in business, when in 1826, he removed to Madison County, Ohio, and there began the race of life anew by teaching school in a log house, on the subscription plan. He died at the early age of twenty-eight, a poor man, leaving a widow and three children: John Mason, Hugh A. and Henry Edward Parker. The mother was married a second time in Madison County, Ohio, to Marcus Garrett, a farmer of that county, by whom she was the mother of seven children.

In 1851 the stepfather, mother and all the children but Henry, who was serving out an apprenticeship, removed to Carroll Township, which is now Sidell in this county. They prospered fairly well, but the mother died in 1864 at the age of fifty-five years. The subject of this sketch was born Aug. 7, 1831, near London, Madison Co., Ohio. His early life was passed in much the same manner as that of any farmer's boy, receiving his education under difficulties. He remained at home until he was seventeen years old, working for his stepfather on the farm. At that age he began to learn the carpenter's trade, and served an apprenticeship covering three years, and during this time he saw the need of an education, and therefore he attended the common schools in the winter, working at his trade during the summer time. He came out to visit his folks in Illinois, remaining here but a short time, when he went to Indianapolis, and there worked at his trade for nine years prior to his enlistment in the army. In 1856, he began

taking contracts and erected a number of city and country residences, and as a contractor he was very successful.

Up to the year last mentioned his sympathies had been with the Whig party, but at the birth of the Republican party he joined its ranks and has continued to act with that organization until the present day.

When Lincoln issued his call for 300,000 troops, he laid aside his hammer and saw, and took up the musket. He enlisted in Company G, 79th Indiana Infantry in Aug. 1862 and was mustered into the service at Indianapolis as a corporal. Here they were drilled for three weeks, when they were ordered to Louisville, and there learned further duties of the soldier. The first engagement in which Mr. Talbott was engaged was the battle of Perryville, Ky., in the fall of 1862 and during their pursuit of Bragg to Nashville, he was taken ill and sent to the hospital at that place, and after lying there for one month, he was discharged in the spring of 1863, when he returned to Indianapolis. After coming out of the army he was for a long time unable to perform physical labor. In 1865 he removed to Illinois and engaged at his trade at Catlin, building several houses that summer. In 1867 he was married to Miss Lucy E. Utterback, a native of Rolls County, Mo., and daughter of Harmon and Lovina (Falls) Utterback. Her father was a native of Kenton County, Ky., while her mother was born in Indiana. Her parents had ten children, all of whom were born in Missouri. Mrs. Talbott came to Vermilion County for the purpose of attending school. She had relatives here who had no children and therefore lived with them. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Talbott settled on their present farm, where they have resided continuously since. They have had three children: Augustin Mason; H. Hugh and Sarah E. Hugh died at the age of twelve years and six months, and the other children are living with their parents at home.

Mr. Talbott's grandfather was born in Maryland, of English ancestry. His grandmother, maternally, was a Sandusky and of the same family after which the Ohio city was named. In the early part of the nineteenth century, three brothers came over from Poland, one of whom settled in Ohio, and founded the city of Sandusky, another locating in Maryland, while Mr. Talbott's ancestor settled in Kentucky. His paternal grandmother was a Mason and a lineal descendant of the surveyor Mason, who in company with Dixon, settled a dispute between Lord Baltimore and William Penn by agreeing on the present State line between Pennsylvania and Maryland, popularly known as Mason and Dixon's line, and surveyed by them in colonial times. The name of Mason, therefore, will be perpetuated in the Talbott family.

Mr. Talbott has served as School Treasurer for ten years and as Director for seven years. He has also taught two terms of school in the district where he lives. In 1872 he was elected Justice of the Peace and has served with distinguished ability in that office since, and in the course of that time has had a great many cases appealed to the higher courts, but his decisions have been invariably sustained. In 1870 he was elected Supervisor, and with the exception of one year, has served for nine years consecutively. He is a member of the G. A. R., and was the first commander of Sidell post No. 536. He was an active man in organizing it, and was one of its charter members. Mr. Talbott is an uncompromising and stalwart Republican and has served on the central committee of his county for several years. When the Odd Fellows' Lodge was started at Sidell in 1886, he was one of its charter members and its first presiding officer and he has represented his lodge in the grand body. Our subject joined the Odd Fellows May 22, 1857.

DANIEL GURLEY. Few who look upon this hale, hearty, bright and intelligent old gentleman would suppose that he has passed the eighty-first year of his age. His has been a familiar figure among the older residents of this county for, lo, these many years, and since the spring of 1864 he has been a resident of Danville. He commenced in life at the foot of the ladder without other resources than the excellent qualities of mind, heart and disposition with

which nature has endowed him, but these proved an invaluable capital, from which he has built up for himself a goodly position among his fellowmen.

Our subject was born in the town of Rupert, Bennington Co., Vt., March 3, 1808, and is the son of Nahum Gurley, a native of Glastonbury, Conn., and of substantial Scotch ancestry. Nahum Gurley was reared to manhood in his native State, from which he removed to Vermont, and was one of the earliest settlers of the town of Rupert. He had learned the trade of a blacksmith in his youth, but after settling in Vermont, purchased land and devoted a part of his time to its improvement and cultivation. At the same time he carried on blacksmithing, but in 1820 disposed of his interests in the Green Mountain State and made his way to Western New York, before there was either a canal or railroad in that region. The journey was made with ox teams, and the father of our subject settled with his family in the vicinity of Albion, Oswego County, where he was a pioneer. He purchased a partially improved tract of land, engaged in farming and also worked at his trade. He there spent his last days, passing away about 1858.

The mother of our subject was in her maidenhood Miss Nellie Goodrich, and she, like her husband, was a native of Connecticut. The simple story of her life was that of a pioneer wife and mother who stood bravely by the side of her husband in his labors and struggles, and set before her children the example of virtue, thrift and industry. She spun wool and flax, and, besides manufacturing the cloth for the family use, made the garments as well. She departed this life prior to the decease of her husband at the old homestead, in Oswego County, N. Y.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of twelve years when his parents removed from Vermont to New York State, and he still distinctly remembers many of the incidents connected with the long journey, especially through the wilds of New York. As soon as old enough, he was taught to make himself useful, and learned the trade of a blacksmith of his father. At that early day plows and axes were made by hand, and young Gurley has turned out many of these in connection with the other general work at the forge. Along in the thirties he determined to see something more of the world, and made his way to Ypsilanti, Mich., and worked at his trade there and at Auburn nearly a year and until winter, when he started for home. He crossed the river at Detroit and walked the entire distance, passing through the sparsely settled portions of Canada, and finally arriving in safety at his destination.

Soon after his return home, Mr. Gurley opened a shop at Albion, where he prosecuted blacksmithing until 1863. He then returned to Michigan, and in Quincy, Branch County, purchased ground and put up a shop. The year following he sold out, and, coming to this county, purchased property in Danville. He erected one among the first store buildings put up on Vermilion street, and engaged in the hide and leather business about a dozen years. He was quite prosperous in this enterprise, and at the expiration of the time mentioned retired from active business, and has since occupied himself in looking after his property.

Mr. Gurley was first married, in Albion, N. Y., to Miss Lydia Rich, a native of Middlefield, Otsego Co., N. Y., and a daughter of Col. Moses Rich. She became the mother of four children, and died Aug. 4, 1856. Their eldest son, Franklin, is now a resident of Runnels County, Tex. Hewitt resides in La Crescent, Minn.; Jerome is a resident of Wisconsin, and Nahum lives in St. Louis. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in March, 1858, was Mrs. Leonora (Hall) Reed, a native of Ellisburg, Jefferson Co., N. Y., and the daughter of Rufus Hall. Her father was born in Belleville, Jefferson County, and was the son of Giles Hall, one of the pioneers of that county, who owned several large tracts of land and was one of the most extensive farmers there. He spent his last years at Ellisburg. His wife was Rachel Pier, a native of Cooperstown, N. Y., and who died in Belleville.

The father of Mrs. Gurley was reared in Jefferson County, N. Y., where he learned the trade of a blacksmith. About 1815 he removed to Oswego County, where he carried on blacksmithing and farming combined, and where he spent the remainder of his life. His wife, Mrs. Harriet (Taylor)

Hall, was born in Balston Spa, Saratoga Co., N. Y. Her father, James Taylor, removed finally from Saratoga to Oneida County, and later to Oswego County, where he died, and where also the death of the mother took place. Miss Hall was first married, in the twentieth year of her age, to Benjamin F. Reed, of Elmira, N. Y. Mr. Reed was a printer by trade, at which he worked in Oswego, and where his death took place Oct. 7, 1855. Of this marriage there were born two children—one of whom died in infancy, and a son, William Reed Gurley, resides in Danville. Mrs. Gurley has been in all respects the suitable partner of her husband, and is still spared to be his stay and comfort. She is a lady highly respected wherever known, and both number their friends by the score in this county. They occupy a comfortable and pleasant home in the northern part of the city.

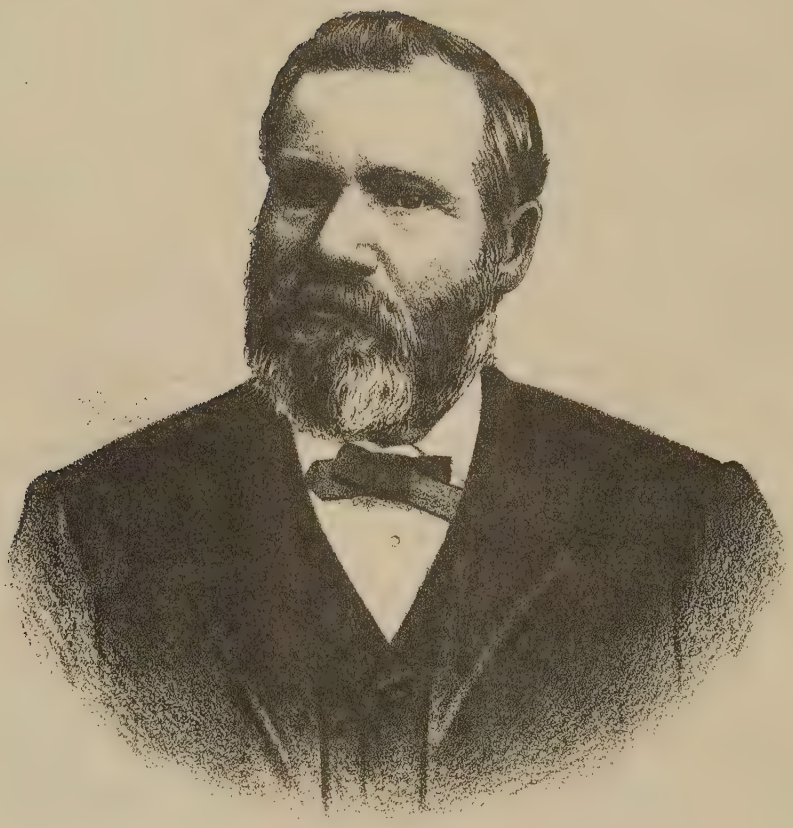
JOHN GRIFFITH CLARK, J. P., a veteran merchant and early settler of Sidell, has been one of the men most closely identified with the interests of this vicinity, for, lo, these many years, and has dispensed justice in his bailiwick for the past four years. He is of that stanch and substantial character which was most needed in the early settlement of Central Illinois, and has borne no unimportant part in the development of his township and the establishment of the various enterprises which have made it a desirable location for an industrious and intelligent class of people.

The scenes of the first recollections of our subject were in the township of Hamilton, Warren Co., Ohio, where his birth took place July 4, 1819. Six or seven years later his father removed to Indianapolis, Ind., which was then in its infancy, there being only five or six frame houses and a few log cabins upon the present site of that now important city. The early education of young Clark was carried on under many disadvantages, he attending the free schools two and one-half months, and later a "rate" school. After working hard during the day, he would take his book at evening and, by the light of a dip candle and the fireplace, extract such knowledge as he could. During those days he wore buckskin breeches and morocco hats. He plowed in the field when a boy of eleven years, and made himself generally useful about the farm from that time on until approaching manhood.

After reaching his majority, young Clark began teaching school in Indiana, and followed this profession twenty-one months at one place, when he resigned, much against the wishes of the School Board, who fully appreciated his faithful services. In 1840, the State of Kentucky now having established a free school at Alexandria, our subject repaired thither, and by a course of study qualified himself still further for the duties of his chosen profession. Later, he taught the first school ever conducted under the free school system in Indiana, holding certificate No. 1 and being examined by Joshua Stevens and Samuel Merrill, the latter subsequently becoming the first President of the State Bank of Indiana. Upon his second application for examination by Miles De Courcy, the latter issued him a certificate upon the strength of his former one. While teaching at Alexandria, he met his first wife, Miss Ann Benedict, who was born in Kentucky. They were married in 1842, and settled near Alexandria.

Our subject continued teaching, and also carried on farming several years in Kentucky, becoming the owner of a farm there. He also mixed considerably in politics, and in due time was dubbed "the leader of the Democratic party in Campbell County." He served on the County and State Central Committees several times, and on the latter in the campaign of 1864. Finally, becoming disgusted with the canvass of that campaign, he retired from the field, although serving later in the same capacity as before.

Of the first marriage of Squire Clark there were born nine children—Elizabeth, Sarah A., William, John T., Nancy J., Hester E., and three who died in infancy. The mother of these departed this life, at New Richmond, in 1857. Our subject married for his second wife Mrs. Mary Battles, a native of Campbell County, Ky., who was born on the 29th of April, 1816, and was the daughter of



Abraham Sandusky

Ella Sandusky

John and Ellen (Gillham) Fuller. Of her marriage to Mr. Battles there were born seven children, and of her marriage with our subject there are two daughters—Carrie B. and Alice H.

Leaving Kentucky in 1874, our subject came to this county and settled on a farm five or six miles northwest of Sidell. He lived there until 1882, then, coming into town, purchased a stock of merchandise, the first ever exhibited at this place, and established himself as a pioneer merchant. He keeps a well-assorted stock of everything required in the village or country household, and has built up a thriving trade. He and his family occupy a good position in social circles, and the Squire and his wife belong to the America Missionary Baptist Church.

After the marriage of Miss Gillham and Mr. Battles, they settled in Hancock County, this State, but later removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, where the death of Mr. Battles occurred. Their seven children were named respectively: Mary E., Reuben, John Stephen, America, Sarah E., Louisa and Nancy Jane. Mrs. Battles after the death of her husband returned to her native State of Kentucky, where she formed the acquaintance of Mr. Clark. They came to Sidell before the completion of the Chicago, Danville & Ohio Railroad, and boarded some of the laborers during its construction. Mr. Clark was the first Postmaster of Sidell, and its first grain buyer—purchasing the first load of grain ever shipped from the place. One day, while at Allerton holding an inquest, an accident happened which crippled him, and he now gets about with the assistance of crutches. He cast his first Presidential vote for Martin Van Buren in 1840, and since then has never missed voting at a Presidential election. While living in Kentucky, he held the office of Justice of the Peace in Alexandria Precinct for a period of fourteen years.

The parents of our subject were Caleb and Elizabeth (Griffith) Clark, the father a native of Greene County, Pa., and the mother of Campbell County, Ky. They were married in the latter place. Caleb Clark was a farmer by occupation, and upon removing from Kentucky settled in Warren County, Ohio, where he sojourned five or seven years, and then removed with his family to Marion County, Ind. He was one of the prominent lights of the Democratic party in that region, and a member of the State Central Committee in 1840–44. He accumulated a very good property, but was finally disabled by a stroke of palsy, and for the last ten years of his life was incapable of labor, and died a poor man, in 1869, in the seventy-fifth year of his age.

The mother of our subject after the death of her husband removed to the home of her daughter, Mrs. Hannah Parker, in this State, where she died, in 1872, at the age of seventy-three years. Of the twelve children in the parental family six grew to mature years, and four are now living, John G., our subject, being the eldest. Hannah, Mrs. Parker, is the mother of ten children, and lives in Catlin, this county; William R., a butcher of Sidell, is married and the father of three children—Hannah, John and J. F.; Mary A., Mrs. Reddick, is a resident of Indiana, and has a family.

Caleb Clark, the father of our subject, was the first man that volunteered in the city of Cincinnati in the War of 1812. He was captured by the British, but soon afterward paroled. The paternal grandfather, John Griffith, served four years in the Revolutionary War, and was in several battles under the direct command of Gen. Washington. The Griffiths traced their ancestry to Wales.

FRANCIS MARION ALEXANDER, a thorough, skillful, careful and prosperous farmer of Georgetown Township, owns and occupies a snug homestead of eighty acres with good buildings, on section 6. He is known to most of the people of this region and recognized as one of the most reliable members of his community. His course has been marked by honesty and uprightness, and in all his worthy ambitions he has received the aid and encouragement of one of the best of wives. Mrs. Alexander deserves especial mention as having performed her share in preserving the reputation of the family and assisting in the accumulation of the property which has secured them against future want. We find them sur-

rounded by all the comforts of life and those evidences of taste and refinement which are so pleasant to the eye. Our subject was named after Gen. Francis Marion, who was a relative on subject's grandmother's side.

A native of Fountain County, Ind., our subject was born Nov. 4, 1834, and was the youngest in a family of seven children, the offspring of Robert and Margaret (Hawkins) Alexander, who were natives of South Carolina. They emigrated to Indiana with their respective parents in their youth, and were married in Fayette County, that state. Later they removed to Fountain County, where the mother died at the early age of thirty-five years. The elder Alexander was married a second time, but died soon afterward at the age of fifty-five. Their children were named respectively: James, William, John, Francis M. our subject; Hester, Rebecca and Martha A. Five of these are living.

Soon after the death of his father our subject went to live with William T. Stevens, who had married his sister, Martha Ann, and in 1848 began working on a farm in Georgetown Township, Vermilion County. Later he operated rented land on his own account. When twenty-two years old he was married, Nov. 4, 1856, to Miss Elizabeth McCorkle, who was a native of Indiana and a daughter of Charles McCorkle. She became the mother of five children and departed this life at the homestead in 1875. Their eldest daughter, Mary E., is now the wife of John Girard, a merchant of Westville, and the mother of one child, Bertie F.; Martha E. was married to H. G. McMillan and died at the age of twenty-one years, leaving one child, Clarence E., who soon followed the mother; Matilda A. is the wife of H. T. Parker, who has charge of the Alexander farm, and they are the parents of a son, Jones N.; Margaret E. married D. E. Beebe, a stock-man and farmer near Huron, Dak., and they have one child, a daughter, Blanche; Minnie D. is unmarried and remains with her father.

Our subject in 1878 contracted a second marriage with Miss Mary E. Parker, who was born in Marion County, Ind., and is the daughter of John and Hannah (Clark) Parker, both natives of Kentucky. Mrs. Alexander was simply a child when her parents came to Illinois and settled first on a farm in Carroll Township, Vermilion County. They are now residents of Catlin Township. Miss Mary lived at home with her parents, receiving careful training from an excellent mother until her marriage. She attended the common school, and grew up to a modest and worthy womanhood, greatly esteemed by her young associates. She has fulfilled the promise of her youth, and has proved in every way the suitable partner of a good man's home. Religiously inclined, she is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Fairview, while Mr. Alexander finds his religious home in the Christian Church, in which he is Elder. Politically our subject advocates the principles of the Democratic party and has served several terms as School Director and Road Supervisor. Beyond this he carefully avoids the responsibilities of office, finding his chief satisfaction in looking after his farm and family. When our subject was twenty-one years of age he went to Iowa and purchased land near Des Moines; then went into merchandising, continuing in that three years; then returned to Westville and went into business at that place; sold that and bought his present place.

THOMAS HAWORTH, who departed this life May 4, 1885, at his homestead in Elwood Township, was esteemed as one of its best citizens and in his death it suffered an irreparable loss. He was born in this township July 12, 1815, and was the son of Joel Haworth, a native of Tennessee, who came to this county when a boy, settling among the Indians and wild animals, as early as 1825, and in common with other pioneers of that period his career was made an item of history in the published records of this county some years since.

Young Haworth, as may be supposed, received only limited school advantages during his boyhood and youth, but his naturally bright mind and habits of observation conspired to make him a very intelligent and thoroughly-well informed man. He assisted his father in the opening up of the home-

stead from the wilderness and upon approaching manhood learned the trade of a plasterer which he followed several years. Later he abandoned this for the more congenial pursuits of agriculture. He was married when nearly thirty-three years of age, March 28, 1878, to Mrs Hannah M. Spray, widow of Jesse Spray, who died in Indianapolis, Feb. 22, 1876.

Mrs. Haworth was born in Hendricks County, Ind., and is the daughter of David Mendenhall, who is long since deceased. After the death of Mr. Haworth she was married to Silas Mendenhall, March 14, 1889. A sketch of Mr. Mendenhall appears on another page in this ALBUM. Mr. Haworth was a liberal and public-spirited citizen and in religious matters belonged to the Society of Friends. He was a man of the most kindly Christian character, beloved and respected by all who knew him and none can point to an unworthy or dishonest act associated with his life.

ABRAHAM SANDUSKY is one of the leading men of Carroll Township, and was born in Bourbon County, Ky., March 24, 1833. His father, also named Abraham, was a native of the same county, and was born March 29, 1793. His mother, Jane (McDowell) was born there also, her birth occurring Dec. 16, 1792.

The grandparents were among the early settlers of Kentucky, and were there at the time the Indians were very troublesome. This family traces its ancestry back to Poland's royalty. They came to America in 1756, and as foreigners, were at first looked upon with suspicion, but their true character becoming known, they were soon in great favor with the people of the colonies, and since that time there have been no more loyal Americans than the Sandusky family. The original forefather became an Indian hunter and trader, and by them was killed.

Of the eight children born to the parents of the subject of this sketch, Abraham was the sixth. He was the last one whose nativity was in Kentucky and he was brought to Illinois in his mother's arms, a babe of six months. He has a good claim to the title of pioneer, and nobly does he sustain that title. His schooling was gained at the public schools of the days of his boyhood but his greatest lessons were gleaned from his father and mother, who taught him industry and honesty. He worked on his father's farm until he was married, Dec. 16, 1869 to Miss Ellen Baird, a native of Carroll Township. He purchased his first land in 1862, and since that time has dealt steadily in real estate, in this way accumulating a great deal of wealth. He speculated in cattle, horses and live-stock generally, and during the war when values were much inflated, and fortunes so easily gained, he did particularly well. He became connected with the Exchange Bank and was interested in the corporation to the extent of one-fourth interest. This institution transacted a general banking business for some four or five years, when the railroad was projected from Paris to Danville. This bank undertook the building and operating of the road, a bonus of $500 a mile being voted for its construction by the several towns through which it passed. The bonded stock of this company amounting to $1,500,000, at one time could have been sold for eighty per cent. The road was sold at forced sale, and being purchased by the Wabash, it consequently forced Mr. Sandusky into bankruptcy, this occurring in 1873 and sweeping his whole fortune away. At that time he was worth $300,000 in money that he had accumulated by his own efforts. Just here the nobility of Mr. Sandusky's character asserted itself, and while many others attribute his great losses to the delinquency of another man, yet Mr. Sandusky remains mute, and simply says that the money was lost. His farm was bought in by his brother, William, and through industry and perseverance Abraham has been able to regain 600 acres of it.

Through all his trials and losses Mr. Sandusky has sustained his honor, always appearing what he really is, a public-spirited and generous citizen. Nearly every church, and all other enterprises designed for the public good, have felt the strength of his liberality. Mr. Sandusky is now following general or mixed farming, and his Short-horn cat-

tle are the best specimems of their breed in this country. Politically, he is a strong uncompromising Republican, and never omits an opportunity to aid his party. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, while his wife is a Baptist.

Nancy Ellen Baird, the wife of Abraham Sandusky, was born in Carroll Township. Her father, Joseph, and mother Lydia (Mendenhall) Baird, were early settlers of Vermilion County. The father was born in Kentucky and the mother in Ohio. She came here with her parents when she was eleven years old, while Mr. Baird was a young man, when he arrived in this county. After their marriage they settled upon their farm where they became the parents of eight children: John G., David A., Nancy Ellen, Elizabeth A., Lydia Jane, Emily F., William S., and Joseph, who died in infancy. Mrs. Baird is residing on the old Mendenhall homestead with her son, Silas, and is in good health at the age of seventy-seven years. Her husband died in 1869 nearly seventy years old.

Fine lithographic portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Sandusky are shown elsewhere in this work, and represent people of fine family, prominent social position and philanthropic spirit. It is the wish of the ALBUM as well as its many readers that they may remain for many years among those who love them.

JOSEPH F. COOK. Somebody has said that the man who loves a good horse is generally a good citizen. The converse of this proposition in certainly true that a man who abuses this noblest of all animals is certainly a bad citizen. If there is anything in this world that Mr. Cook likes better than another it is a good horse. He is especially proud of the fact that he is the owner of as fine horses as can be found in Vermilion County. He is a man who possesses great intelligence and uses his talents freely in his business of putting on the market splendid horses. His financial success in this direction fully attests the fact that he has not failed to make for himself an enviable reputation as a fair, capable and reliable business man. His excellent judgment has led him to select Cleveland Bays and Mambrino strains as the most superior breeds for the class of animals he deals in.

Mr. Cook was born in Vermillion County, Ind., about two miles from his present home on Oct. 25, 1859. His father, Dr. Joseph C. Cook, was a native of Virginia and came with his father—and the grandfather of the subject of this sketch—William Cook, to Parke County, Ind., where the latter settled on new land. At this time the country was overrun with wild animals and wilder Indians, but they were bound to make a home and in this determination they were successful. Dr. Cook located in Vermillion County, Ind., soon after his marriage, which was about forty years ago and his capital at that time consisted of only fifty cents. He also owned a horse, saddle and bridle, but above all possessed no little ambition to make a name and accumulate property. He became one of the most eminent physicians in this country, and when he died he was the owner of 1,700 acres of land beside having $48,000 in accounts on his books as well as notes and other property. No call from the sick ever went unanswered by him and the afflicted poor received as much attention as those that were wealthy. One feature of his philanthrophy was the giving of $600 a year to the worthy poor. He died in Vermillion Township, Jan. 22, 1875, honored and respected by the entire community. His widow who was Margaret J. Dallas, before her marriage, is now living on the old homestead, and is the mother of twelve children, five of whom are living: William C., Charles, Joseph F. Addison W. and Bertie C.

Joseph F. Cook received his education at the common schools, and nearly all his life has been spent in the occupation of farming. He was married to Miss Drusilla P., daughter of James Campbell, who was an early settler of this township. Mr. and Mrs. Cook are the parents of four children: Nettie P., Roy F., May D. and Bertie C. Mr. Cook's farm is situated on section 36, range 11, Elwood Township, where he owns a quarter section of splendid land. As before indicated he is a breeder of fine horses. He owns the Duke of Cleveland, an imported Cleveland Bay, four years old, which weighs 1,400 pounds and is sixteen and one-fourth

hands high. He is also the owner of Roy Davis, whose grandsire is old Dr. Hurr, of Paris, sired by Mambrino Davis, a brother of Joe Davis, the noted trotter that made a record of 2:17 a few years ago. The dam of Roy Davis is Senorita Parepa, corrected from volume 1, page 255, of J. H. Wallace's American Trotting Register, making Roy Davis a thoroughbred.

Mr. and Mrs. Cook are devoted members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and are always found ready to extend financial help to any benevolent project. Mr. Cook is a wealthy man and and is especially proud of the record of his father as a physician and philanthropist.

JAMES SYLVESTER CLINGAN, a retired farmer and a resident of Westville, is the owner of a fine body of improved land in Catlin Township, which is operated by his sons. He is in comfortable circumstances and has been blessed with a life partner of more than ordinary worth, who has been his efficient helpmate in the accumulation of their property and has contributed largely in maintaining the dignity and reputation of the family. They are people held in high esteem and are classed among the best elements of their community.

In glancing at the antecedents of our subject we find that he was born in Miami County, eight miles southwest of Troy, Ohio, Dec. 15, 1830, and is the son of William and Nancy (Ramsey) Clingan, the former a native of the same county as his son and the mother born near Susquehanna, Pa. The latter descended from substantial old Pennsylvania stock, while the paternal grandfather of our subject, James Clingan, by name was a native of Ireland. The parents were married in Dayton, Ohio, and the father carried on farming in that vicinity until 1815. That year they came to Illinois, settling six miles east of Danville and one-half mile from the State line, where the elder Clingan commenced opening up a farm from the wilderness, but was called away by death two years after his arrival here. The eighty acres of land which he had secured was only partially paid for and two-thirds of it had to be sold. Our subject, then a youth of seventeen years, began working out by the month and assisted his mother until she no longer required his filial services. She passed away Sept. 19, 1851. The parental household consisted of eight children, namely: William, James Sylvester, our subject, John, Robert, Joshua, Mason, Sarah, and George.

When twenty-four years of age our subject was married, in 1855 to Miss Alvira, a daughter of John and Mary Olehy. The young people commenced their wedded life together on a rented farm in Danville Township, where they lived seven years, and then Mr. Clingan purchased part of the estate of his wife's father. Later he sold this and bought 120 acres of land in Catlin Township. He subsequently added to this and is now the owner of 200 acres which is largely devoted to the raising of grain and stock and which yields handsome returns.

To Mr. and Mrs. Clingan there have been born four children: The eldest, John W., a farmer of Georgetown Township, married Miss Mary Nesbitt, and is the father of two children—Dennis A. and Edna A.; Dennis R., who resides on the home farm, married Miss Louisa Graves; Mary E., died at the age of two years; Luther, a resident of Georgetown Township, married Miss Martha Graves and is the father of two children—Blanche and Herschell. Our subject and his estimable wife left the farm in November, 1886, and took up their abode in Westville, where they purpose living retired from the arduous labors with which they were employed during their younger years. Mr. Clingan politically affiliates with the Democratic party, but has never sought office and has mingled very little with public affairs, with the exception of serving as a School Director in his district for a perod of nine years.

The parents of Mrs. Clingan were natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. They were married in Ohio where their two eldest children were born and came to Illinois in 1833, settling three miles east of Danville. There the birth of Mrs. Clingan took place in 1835. Only four of the fourteen children born to the parents are living.

The eldest, Louisa, is the wife of Dennis Rouse of Danville. Alvira, Mrs. Clingan, is the next eldest; Mary, Mrs. Herman Clyman, lives on a farm in Georgetown Township; Rebecca Jane, is the wife of George Watson, a farmer of Pilot Township.

ELIZA (SNYDER) CASSEL is the relict of the late John Cassel, a former prominent citizen of Pilot Township and one of the leading farmers of this part of Vermilion County, owning a large farm and carrying on stock-raising quite extensively during many years of a busy and useful life. Our subject makes her home on this farm, which she helped her husband to place among the best and most desirable estates in this locality in point of size, cultivation and style of buildings.

Mrs. Cassel is a native of Muskingum, County, Ohio, born in May, 1827. Her parents, John and Mary (Blunt) Snyder, were natives of Virginia, and pioneers of Ohio, and subsequently early settlers of this county, coming here in 1831 and locating in Blount Township. The father died in 1848, thus ending a life of usefulness, and leaving a name that is held in respect by his descendants. Both he and his wife were of Irish antecedents. The latter died in 1872 at a venerable age. They were the parents of ten children, six of whom are living, as follows: our subject, of whom we will speak further; Cenith, living in New Pontiac, Ill., a widow, who has been twice married, Mr. Alfred Lane being her first husband and Isaac Norman her second husband, she having three children by her last union—John, Charles and Wesley: John, a farmer, married Rachel Robinson, and is the father of ten children; Charles married Margaret Allhand, of this county, and they have eight children; Wesley, living retired in Danville, married Mary Cunnigan, and they have seven children. Margaret married James Gillen, a farmer in Cherokee County, Kan., and they have twelve children.

Our subject was a small child of scarcely four years when her parents brought her to Vermilion County, therefore she can have but little recollection of any previous home, and here she was reared amid the pioneer scenes of those early days of the settlement of this section of the country to a strong, self-reliant, useful womanhood. When quite young she assumed the responsibilities of married life by uniting her fate with that of Henry Bailey, a young farmer of the neighborhood, his parents coming from South Carolina in early days and settling among the pioneers of the county. Three children blessed our subject and her husband, namely: Melissa, Mary and William. Melissa married F. M. Ogle of this county, now living in Linn County, Kan., and they have ten children; Mary married James Goff, of this county, now living in Wilson County, Kas., and they have six children; William enlisted in the army in 1861, and gave up his life to his country, dying at the battle of Corinth, Miss., in 1862. Mr. Bailey departed this life about 1848.

Our subject was united in marriage to John Cassel in 1850. He was born in Georgia, his parents being John and Martha (Dark) Cassel. Of this marriage ten children were born, of whom the following is recorded: Columbus, a farmer in Gray County, Kan., married Eva Clark, of Champaign County, Ill., and they have three children; Caroline married Allen Kirkpatrick, a farmer of this county, and they have five children; Ann married James Nichols, a farmer of this county, and they have two children; Charles is at home, unmarried; Alice, Frank and Martin are deceased; Martha married Harry Canaday, of Champaign County, Ill., now a merchant in Gray County, Kan., and they have two children; Rosa married John McAlister, a farmer of this county, and they have two children.

Mr. Cassel came to this county when a young man, and commenced life on his own account. He had absolutely nothing to depend on but the labor of his own hands, but in the course of a life of extraordinary industry he accomplished a great deal, and placed himself among the men of wealth and solid standing in the county. He owned 640 acres of valuable land, all well improved, with substantial buildings, and all the appointments of a well-managed farm.

In the death of Mr. Cassel, which occurred July

15, 1880, Pilot Township sustained a severe loss, as he was in every way a fine man and a desirable citizen, who had taken a strong interest in the township and had done a great deal to advance its material prosperity. He was a considerate husband, a loving father and a good neighbor, ever just and upright in his dealings. He was a sound Republican in his political views, and in working for the good of his party deemed that he was promoting the highest interests of his country. He was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, contributed liberally to the support of the Gospel, and was prominent in the management of the affairs of his church, holding its various offices.

Mrs. Cassel has shown herself to be in every way worthy of her husband. She is a quiet, unobtrusive lady, who has conscientiously done her duty in the various departments of life that she has been called on to fill as wife, mother and friend, and her place in this community is among our best and most warmly esteemed people. She possesses excellent judgment and sound common sense, and is a wise manager, so that her husband's estate has not diminished in value since it came into her hands.

A view of her pleasant home is given on another page of this volume, and is a good representation of one of the most comfortable country residences in the county.

ARCHIBALD McDOWELL, an honored citizen and early pioneer of this section of the State of Illinois, is now passing his advanced years in the quiet of his home, looking back upon a long record of usefulness that perhaps is not equaled by any of his compeers. He was born in Todd County, sixteen miles from Hopkinsville, Ky., Sept. 4, 1813. William and Mollie Nancy (Thompson) McDowell were his parents and were born in Greenbrier County, Va. Shortly after their marriage they removed to what was then called Christian County (later Todd) Ky., where all of their children were born, whose names follow: Josiah, Margaret, John D., Eliza, James, Archibald, Robert and William. All of these came to Illinois with their parents in 1826, and of whom now only two are living, Archibald and William.

William McDowell was the owner of a large plantation in Kentucky, but a desire seized him to emigrate to Illinois, a move which he never regretted. The journey was made by the means of one wagon and a cart, which were drawn by oxen. He started with thirty head of cattle and thirteen head of horses. On the road the cattle were all seized by an epidemic, as were also the horses, and when they landed at their destination an inventory of their stock exhibited the fact that they had one cow, one ox, and one horse. He settled in Crawford County, four miles from Palestine, where he lived six years, when he removed to Vermilion County. It was under these early circumstances and environments that Archibald McDowell grew to manhood. The country for a few years after his father's arrival in Illinois was entirely destitute of educational privileges, and when alleged school-houses were erected, the advantages to obtain an education were not very much better. The teachers of those days were not chosen for their especial literary qualifications, but for their physical ability. The schools lasted only four to six months in the year.

About two years after William McDowell removed to this county he desired to return to Kentucky to settle up some affairs, which he did. On his return trip to Illinois he was seized with a malignant fever and died. Several members of the family who went to see him, were also taken ill with the same disease which carried off two of the children, the mother and one brother recovering after a long siege of illness. Archibald, William and one of the younger sisters were the only ones of the family who were not ill. The following season the subject of this sketch and William planted the crops alone and from that day Archibald became the head of the household.

At the age of twenty-one, Mr. McDowell was married to Miss Mary Hildreth, who is a native of Bourbon County, Ky., and reared in Illinois. Her parents came to this State in 1833. After Mr. McDowell's marriage he settled on 115 acres of land which belonged to his mother and the heirs. His energy and industry united with his speculative

genius in handling land, soon placed him comparatively well-off. His first wife lived fifteen years after marriage, when she died, leaving six children: Columbus, Louisa, Margaret A., William, Nancy A. and Melissa. Mr. McDowell's second marriage occurred in 1859 to Miss Cynthia Ann Seals, who was born in Clark County, Ill. She is still living and is the mother of the following children: John I., Alice J.,George, Amanda,Thomas, Cyrus,Ora and Odbert. Mrs. McDowell is the daughter of Ivan and Nancy Seals, the former being born in Virginia, while the latter is a native of Kentucky. This couple had five children who grew to maturity: Henry, Jane, William, Cynthia and Taylor. Henry, William and Taylor, enlisted in the Union Army and only one of the trio returned from the war. William is now farming near Preston, Kan.; Jane married William Craig. They are living four miles east of Oakland, Ill.

Mrs. McDowell was reared in Clark County, Ill., and came to Edgar County, when she was eighteen years old, where her parents died, the father in 1878 at the age of sixty-six years and the mother in 1876 at the age of sixty-three years. Mr. McDowell has held several places of responsibility, especially those pertaining to educational advancement, he having served for sixteen years as a School Director. Politically he is in sympathy with the labor movement, although raised in the Democratic faith.

The Chicago & Ohio River Railroad was built in 1881, when Mr. McDowell gave that corporation the right of way through his land. A depot was erected upon his premises and the station was named Archie in honor of the owner of the land. The Post-office also goes by the same name.

JOHN P. CLOYD, M. D., the leading physician and surgeon of Georgetown, and a very able practitioner, has been a resident of this place since 1869. A conscientious attention to business and a more than ordinary understanding of the duties of his calling has resulted in the building up of a fine patronage, while at the same time he is liberal-minded and public-spirited, and one of the most enterprising and popular men of the place. In personal appearance he is of fine stature, with a pleasing address and an ever ready wit, and is welcomed as a general favorite in the social circles. As a business man his career has been irreproachable.

Our subject was born near the old home of Andrew Johnson, in Greenville, Tenn., June 28, 1838, and is the son of William and Julia (Northington) Cloyd, the former of whom was born in Washington County, Tenn., and was the son of a native of Virginia, who carried a musket in the War of 1812. The great-grandfather, William Cloyd, was born in Bellemony, Ireland, and was of pure Scotch ancestry, followers of the Protestant religion. The mother of our subject was a native of Virginia, whence she removed with her parents to East Tennessee when a young lady. The Northingtons were of Scotch-Irish blood, while the maternal grandmother of our subject, formerly a Miss Crouch, was of English stock. The Cloyds were represented in this country during the colonial days and the great-grandfather of our subject served in the Revolutionary War. Grandfather James B. Cloyd was in the War of 1812 under Gen. Andrew Jackson, and also fought the Creek Indians in Alabama.

The parents of our subject were reared and married in East Tennessee, where they spent their entire lives. The father carried on a wagon manufactory, turning out the celebrated old schooner-bed, six-horse wagon, numbers of which were afterwards seen making their way slowly to the Great West, over the trackless prairie. He was a very industrious and energetic man and accumulated a good property. He died, however, at the early age of thirty years, after a short illness of pneumonia, in 1848. He left his widow with three children: John Patton, our subject, David Northington and James W.

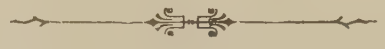
After our subject had attained manhood his mother contracted a second marriage, and there was born one child. She died at Greenville, Tenn., at the age of sixty-seven years. John Patton Cloyd received a common school education, and as soon as old enough began assisting his father in the wagon shop. Later he entered Rhea Academy at

Greenville, where he completed the preparatory course, and about this time decided upon entering the medical profession. At the age of seventeen he became a student in Washington County, East Tenn., but on account of limited means was obliged to abandon his studies and engage in teaching. At the close of his first term he set out for Indiana, and halting in Vermillion County taught school two years, and in 1859 came to Illinois.

Here our subject followed the profession of a pedagogue until 1864. In the meantime he employed his leisure hours in the study of medicine, which he had begun when a youth of eighteen. In 1864 he repaired to Chicago, and entering Rush Medical College took two courses of lectures, and was graduated with the class of 1869. In the meantime, however, he had begun the practice of his chosen profession at Yankee Point, three and one-half years prior to receiving his diploma from Rush. After leaving the college Dr. Cloyd established himself in Georgetown, where he has since remained. He has suffered nothing else to distract his attention from the duties of his profession, and besides being the oldest practitioner in the place, is the most skillful and successful.

In 1859 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Golden, a native of this county, and the daughter of Jacob and Alcie (Frazier) Golden: they also were from East Tennessee and numbered among the pioneers of Elwood Township, this county. Of this union there have been born five children: Richard, Belle, Frazier, Grace and John, the latter now a bright lad of ten years; Richard has chosen his father's profession, and is a student at Rush Medical College, Chicago, in the class of '90. Prior to entering there he was graduated from the Eastern Illinois College, and has taught school five years in this county; Belle is the wife of Rev. D. G. Murray, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Jacksonville, and they have one child, Rose; Frazier is following the profession of a teacher in this county; Grace and John are at home with their parents. The family residence is pleasantly situated in the central part of the village and is the frequent resort of its best people.

The Doctor, socially, belongs to Russell Lodge No. 154, A. F. & A. M., at Georgetown, and is also a member of Athelstan Commandery at Danville. He has been Master in his lodge at Georgetown since the time of his first election in 1873, with the exception of three years. He is a charter member of the Medical Association of Vermilion County, and one of its brightest lights. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party.



CHARLES COOPER. There is probably no more popular or more promising young citizen of Carroll Township than the subject of this notice. Nature has endowed him with those admirable qualities which constitute the basis of all good society and upon which the wellbeing of a community depends. He is fully in sympathy with the broad, free, independent life of a farmer, and is comfortably established at a neat homestead, 160 acres in extent and pleasantly located on section 7. He makes a specialty of fine cattle and horses and is able to exhibit some of the handsomest specimens of these to be found in the county. His farm is finely located near the village of Indianola, and the dwelling is just far enough from the highway to insure quiet, seclusion and cleanliness. In its appointments and surroundings it very nearly realizes the modern idea of the country home.

Our subject, a native of this county, was born in Georgetown Township, Dec. 30, 1857, and is the son of John E. Cooper, a Virginian by birth, who upon leaving his native state emigrated to Ohio and in 1840 came to Illinois. He was married in Georgetown Township, this county, to Miss Lucinda Cook, and after establishing a home of his own, set himself to work to gain a competence and become a man among men. He was prospered in his labors and in due time became one of the foremost men of his town and the owner of 640 acres of land. He kept himself thoroughly posted with regard to the new methods of farming produced from time to time, and purchased and used the first steel plow ever brought to this county.

The old Cooper homestead is a familiar feature in the landscape to most of the older residents of

this region. The farm is embellished with a large brick mansion four stories in height, with an observatory whose roof is reared fifty-nine feet from the ground. John E. Cooper and his excellent wife were both consistent Christians and members in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The father departed this life at the old homestead in 1885 at the age of fifty-nine years; the mother is still living and is now aged sixty-one. The nine children comprising the household circle are recorded as follows: George B., the eldest, and John W., the second son and third child, are conducting in partnership a large livery establishment at Greencastle, Ind.; George married Miss Carrie Moreland, and is the father of three children, Opie, Effort and Glenn; John married Miss Nora Hill, and they also have three children, Elmo, Elgin and Jennie; Miss Jennie Cooper married Russell Jones, a farmer and stock-raiser in the vicinity of Carthage, Mo., and they have one child, Bert; Sally was married to John A. Gilkey, who is now deceased, and she has two children, Signal and Ora; they reside at the Cooper homestead with the mother; Annie is also at home; Lizzie became the wife of Will Moreland, and died leaving one child, Johnnie; Kate married J. R. Jones, a wholesale and retail merchant of Ft. Scott, Mo.; Quin L. is unmarried and operates the old Cooper homestead.

The subject of this sketch was a little lad of four years when his father purchased the land which he afterward constructed into one of the finest farms of this region. He there spent his boyhood and youth, assisting his father in the development of the land and acquiring his education in the common school. He remained a member of the parental household until twenty-four years old, and was married in September, 1882, to Miss Kate, daughter of Thomas and Catherine T. (Hedges) Moreland, who were natives of Kentucky. They came to Illinois at an early day and Mrs. Cooper was born in Carroll Township, this county, in 1860. The first year after his marriage our subject rented the old Moreland Farm and then moved upon that which he now occupies. He makes a specialty of road horses and is in the habit of carrying off the blue ribbons at the Danville and Catlin fairs. In cattle his favorite breed is the Short-horn, of which he has some excellent specimens with registered pedigree. In 1884 he rented the Hedges farm which he has since conducted with success.

Two bright children grace the family circle, Fleda and Luie, who are aged three and five respectively. Although having little time to give to politics, Mr. Cooper is a man of decided ideas and gives his unqualified support to the Democratic party. The beautiful Woodlawn Cemetery is within sight of Mr. Cooper's home and in which was built the Cooper family vault, largely through the instrumentality of the elder Cooper, whose remains now repose within it. This vault, a tasteful and substantial structure, was built at a cost of $1,900 and adds greatly to the appearance of the cemetery, which is frequently visited by the sight-seers of this region.

CASSIUS M. HESTER, a young man approaching the twenty-eighth year of his age, is a son of one of the pioneers of this county and was born at his father's old homestead in Elwood Township, Dec. 15, 1861. A sketch of his father, William Hester, will be found on another page in this ALBUM. The latter is a man of note in his community and the son has apparently inherited many of the excellent qualities of his sire.

Our subject studied his first lessons in the schools of his native district and later attended Vermilion Academy. At the age of fifteen years he started out to see the world and going to Colorado, in 1876, worked on a farm four months, then engaged in teaming between Fountain City and Colorado Springs. He also engaged in hauling hay and whatever else he could find to do. He returned home in the summer of 1877 and remained on the farm until his marriage.

The above-mentioned interesting event in the life of our subject occurred on the 3d of September, 1885, the bride being Miss Rosa, daughter of Rev. James Haworth. Mr. Haworth was formerly of Quaker Hill, Ind., but is now in Ackworth, Warren

RES. OF CHAS. TILTON, (SON), SEC. 32. T. 23. - R. 12.

RES. OF GEO. TILTON, (SON) SEC. 28. T. 23. - R. 12

RES. OF WESLEY BLACKFORD, (SON IN LAW) SEC. 2. T. 22. - R. 13.

RESIDENCE OF FRED. TILTON, SEC. 29. (T. 23. R. 12.) GRANT TOWNSHIP.

Co., Iowa, where he is preaching the Gospel in the Friend's Church. Mr. and Mrs. Hester were the parents of one child which was taken from the home circle in infancy. Our subject like his forefathers belongs to the Society of Friends, and is Recorder of births and deaths in the Church at Vermilion Grove in which he also officiates as Treasurer. He is one of the leading lights among his religious brethren and a young man who is a favorite generally in the social circles of his community.

FRED TILTON. Could the pioneers of forty years ago have been given the power to discern the result of their long and arduous labors upon first coming to this section of country, they would have had everything to encourage them, and there would have been little excuse for any failure which they might have made. As it was, many of them were giving the best part of their lives to an experiment, as it were, hoping indeed that their labors would be rewarded, but not being entirely assured of the fact. Too much credit, therefore, cannot be given them for the manner in which they persevered under many difficulties, and to them is the present generation indebted for the blessings which they to-day enjoy, the comforts of life and many of its luxuries.

Among those who were willing to risk their labor and their capital on a new soil during the early settlement of this county, was he whose name stands at the head of this sketch, and who was then at the beginning of life's journey. He had little capital but his own strong hands and resolute will, but he entered upon the task before him with that high courage which distinguished so many of his compeers. As he now looks over his fine farm of 400 acres, the toils and labors of those first years seem to melt away in the reward of the present. His home is pleasantly located on section 29, township 23, range 12. He purchased his land from the Government in the fall of 1852, paying therefor $1.25 per acre. It was then a raw prairie, which the plowshare had never touched, and there was not a tree or shrub upon the whole area.

The first business of our subject after purchasing his land was to provide a shelter for himself and family. He purchased a small house in Higginsville, which he had removed to his farm, and then put in his first season's crops, after which he began those improvements naturally suggested to the intelligent and enterprising farmer. The only wagon road through this part of the country at this time was the old Chicago road, and wild animals were plentiful, so that the family never lacked for meat. A number of years passed before the land was all brought to a state of cultivation, but in due time it began to assume the proportions of a well-regulated farm, with substantial fences and good buildings. Mr. Tilton has set out good shade and fruit trees, and has the latest improved machinery for the tilling of the toil. He is looked upon as one of the leading farmers of his township, and one who has contributed his full share in developing its resources.

The subject of this sketch was born near the town of Sherbrook, Canada, March 5, 1821, and lived there until a youth of fourteen years. His parents then removed to Ohio, whence they came to this county in 1836. They settled at Danville, where the father established a brick kiln, and also operated as a contractor and builder, and among other work constructed a dam across the Vermilion for the mill built by Amos Williams, who was one of the most prominent millers in this part of the State. Fred assisted his father in his labors, and in 1838 was engaged in hauling stone for the abutments of the Wabash Railroad, which was being built by the State. He also that year for a time carried the mail from Danville to Joliet, a distance of 110 miles with about seven offices between. There was not a bridge between the two places, and the trip occupied two days. Many a time he made it with not a thing in the mail bag. A large number of people in this region were then suffering from ague, and not able even to get out and cut the feed for the horses, so the mail-carrier had to do it himself. Young Tilton was thus in the employ of Uncle Sam until the fall of 1840, and then, settling upon a tract of land in Middle

Fork Township, about ten miles north of Danville, began farming on his own account.

In due time our subject by dilligent labor was in a condition to establish a home of his own, and in May, 1846, took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Affa K. Horton. Shortly afterward they removed to North Fork Township, where Mr. Tilton rented land of Alvin Gilbert, and as soon as other land in that region came into market he purchased 160 acres. One of the first tasks to which he set himself on his new farm was to plant a grove of forest trees, and as the result of this he has now cut from this his own fire wood for the last five or six years. At one time he was the owner of 720 acres of land, all of which he brought to a state of cultivation. Finally he turned his attention to stock-raising, which yielded him handsome profits. He has seen the time when a large hog dressed sold for $1 to $1.25, and a small one at seventy-five cents, and under these circumstances Mr. Tilton, like many of his neighbors, naturally met with some difficulty in making both ends meet.

Mr. Tilton, in reviewing a career which has been remarkably successful, acknowledges that he has been greatly assisted by his intelligent and sensible wife, who stood by him through sunshine and storm, and by her careful management of her household expenses, proved a most wise and efficient helpmate.

As the farm of our subject grew in dimensions and value, so also the household circle enlarged, and eight of the ten children born to him and his estimable wife are still living: Mary, the eldest daughter, is now the wife of Wesley Blackford; they live in Butler Township, and have two children; George was first married to Miss Mary Judy, who died after becoming the mother of two children. He was then married to Miss Florence Clemens, and lives on his 160-acre farm given him by his father, lying east of the homestead. Sarah is unmarried and remains with her parents; Charles occupies a 120-acre farm given him by his father; James is cultivating eighty acres of his own land; Alice is a milliner by trade and does business at Potomac; Jane is the wife of Perry Fowler, of Red Lake Falls, Minn., and the mother of one child; Jesse G. is at home with his father. The children of Mr. Tilton have been carefully trained and educated, and thoroughly fitted for their future stations, as the representatives of one of the first families in the township.

Mrs. Affa K. (Horton) Tilton was born in Habersham County, Ga., April 16, 1824, and is the daughter of David Horton, who was a prominent local politician, and remained in Georgia during the Confederate days. His daughter came north with her future husband, Mr. Tilton, riding 600 miles on horseback and being on the road twenty-one days. She lived with her aunt in Blount Township until her marriage; her father is still living in Georgia, and is quite well advanced in years. Abial F. Tilton, the father of our subject, was born in New Hampshire late in 1700, and when leaving his native State, removed first to Vermont, and later to Canada. In the Dominion he married Miss Cynthia Thompson, of Massachusetts, and they reared a family of ten children, six sons and four daughters. Finally coming West, he settled in Danville, this county, at an early day, but afterward moved to Middle Fork Township, and began farming. He departed this life in 1866. His wife had died in 1838. Mr. Tilton is an Independent in politics, but of late years has voted the Prohibition ticket. He served as Township Supervisor two years, also officiated as Township Trustee, and has occupied other positions of trust. He is a man uniformly esteemed and respected by his fellow-citizens, and is considered a representative of the best elements of his community. A lithographic view of Mr. Tilton's residence appears elsewhere in this volume.

HENRY COTTON, familiarly known throughout Westville and vicinity, as "Uncle Harry" and "The Squire," is one of the most popular men of the place, and an especial favorite with the "boys." There is not a more genial or companionable individual in this region, and he has the faculty of preserving, under all circumstances, that equable temperament and serene countenance, which is one of man's best gifts. He occupies himself as a general merchant

and without being wealthy is in comfortable circumstances, enjoying a fair income and a modest home. He was one of the pioneers of this section and has been prominent from the start, serving as Postmaster and occupying other positions of trust and responsibility.

Our subject was born in Decatur County, Ind., March 19, 1822. His father, Robert Cotton, was born in the vicinity of Beardstown, Ky., and emigrated to this county in the fall of 1822, during the period of its earliest settlement and when few white men had ventured onto the frontier. Henry was then an infant of six months and is therefore one of the oldest living settlers of the county. Mrs. Hannah (Howard) Cotton, the mother of our subject, was a native of the same place as her husband and was there reared and married and became the mother of two children in the Blue Grass State. Upon leaving Kentucky they removed to Switzerland County, Ind., and not long afterward to Decatur County, whence they came to this county. The Cottons trace their ancestry to the stanch old Puritan stock of Massachusetts, where John Cotton, one of its first representatives in this country, settled at a very early date and figured conspicuously in public affairs.

The father of our subject only lived two years after coming to this county, dying, when a young man, in 1824. He left his widow with a family of seven children of whom Henry was next to the youngest. He, like his brothers and sisters, grew up amid the wild scenes of pioneer life at a time when wild animals abounded in this region, deer being especially plentiful, and wolves howled around their cabin door at night. Frequently the broad and unhabited prairie covered with wild dry grass, was lighted up by a conflagration, started perhaps by some unwary traveler dropping a spark from his pipe, when the smoke and flames would sweep perhaps for miles destroying animal life to a great extent and threatening that of human beings. Every level-headed settler made it his first business to protect himself from this catastrophe by plowing around his dwelling and thus destroying the food or the flames which could be forestalled in no other way.

The education of the Cotton children was confined to a few months instruction each year in a log school-house, with puncheon floor, seats and desks made from unplaned slabs, the window panes of greased paper, a huge fire-place extending nearly across one end of the building and the chimney built outside of earth and sticks. The system of instruction corresponded with the time and place, little being required of the teacher except to be able to read, write and "cipher." Henry Cotton, however, availed himself of these meager advantages and in 1844 began teaching and followed this during the winter season for two or three years. In the meantime on the 16th of January, 1845, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Getty, a descendant of the well-known Getty family of Pennsylvania, from which the town which gained historic fame during the Rebellion was named.

Upon reaching manhood, our subject, leaving the farm took to the river and followed the life of a flatboatman during which he made eighteen trips to and from New Orleans. It was upon one of these trips that he met his future wife at Vincennes, Ind., where in due time they were married and began housekeeping, residing at Vincennes eight years. When not on the river Mr. Cotton occupied himself as a carpenter. Upon coming to this county, he began farming in Danville Township and was on the highway to prosperity, having comfortable means and last but not least, a family of four interesting children. This happy state was broken in upon by the notes of war, and in response to the call of President Lincoln for 300,000 men for three years, our subject enlisted July 9, 1862, in Company G, 125th Illinois Infantry. He was mustered into service at Danville, where the company remained drilling for a time, then was ordered to Cincinnati, Ohio, and from there to Louisville, Ky. They drilled also at the latter place and then proceeded to Gallatin, Tenn., where during the arduous duties assigned him, Mr. Cotton was over-heated and suffered so long thereafter from illness that he was obliged to accept his honorable discharge in February, 1863.

In the fall of the year above mentioned Mr. Cotton changed his residence to Knox County, Ind., where he sojourned ten years. His next removal was to Clay County, this State, and from

there he returned to this county in 1882 and engaged in mercantile business at Westville. On April 30, 1883 his store and stock was destroyed by fire but he rebuilt and in time attained to his old footing financially. He was appointed Postmaster of Westville under President Arthur and served three years. For four years he has been Justice of the Peace and has discharged the duties of this office with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.

Mr. Cotton cast his first presidential vote for Henry Clay in 1844, being a member of the old Whig party. Upon its abandonment he cordially endorsed Republican principles and has since given his undivided support to this party. Socially he is a prominent member of Kyger Post, G. A. R. at Georgetown. He is the father of six children, the eldest of whom, Robert D., died Aug. 13, 1888 and left two children. William I., the second son, was also married, became the father of two children and died Feb. 29, 1884; John H. died Sept. 30, 1888; Mary J. died in infancy; George Elmer is a well-to-do farmer of McLean County, this State, and the father of one child; Ellen, the youngest of the family, is at home with her parents. Both Mr. Cotton and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church.

LAWRENCE V. MANNING, the veteran threshing machine man of Sidell Township, established himself at this business in Vermillion County, Ind., as early as 1863 and with the exception of eight years spent at Fairmount has since been engaged therein. He has worn out several machines, at first using horses, but as time passed on availed himself of the modern improvements in connection with this business and now has one of the latest and most improved machines in use, the Hubert Thresher, which is operated by a 12-horse power engine, with the Shrieves Stacker. This has a capacity of 3,300 bushels of oats in nine hours, as demonstrated by Mr. Manning, who has performed with it some of the biggest day's work in this line on record in Vermilion County.

Personally, the subject of this notice is a gentleman of fine appearance, large, symmetrical and well developed, and with mental powers equal to his stature and muscular system. As a business man he has uniformly displayed superior judgment, investing his capital wisely and has thus acquired a handsome property. Politically, he is a strong Republican and one of the most prominent members of his party in this section. A native of Tompkins County, N. Y., he was born June 24, 1836, and is the son of Charles and Harriet (Austin) Manning, also natives of that county. The Manning family is of Scotch and English blood and crossed the Atlantic at an early day, settling in New England, where the paternal grandfather of our subject was born. Both he and Grandfather Austin were early pioneers of Tompkins County, N. Y. Secretary Manning belonged to the same family.

The father of our subject learned the carpenter trade early in life and was married in Tompkins County, N. Y., whence he removed in 1839 to Berlin, this State, where he began working at his trade, but died that same year, leaving his widow with three children—John, Jeremiah and Lawrence Van Cleark. The latter was but three years old at the time of his father's death. The mother was married a second time to J. M. Rogers at Springfield and removed from there in 1845 to Vermillion County, Ind., settling in Parisville, where Mr. Rogers prosecuted his trade of cooper and finally became owner of a farm. Of this marriage there were born five children.

The early life of our subject was spent on the farm of his stepfather in Vermillion County, Ind., where his time was filled in with hard work and no education whatever, he being seventeen years old before he could read or write. At this time he started out for himself without a dollar, and when the clothing on his back would not have brought this sum if put up and sold to the highest bidder. He had, however, been trained to habits of industry and honesty and it was his good fortune to enter the employ of one Mr. Lewis, a school teacher for whom he worked in summer and under whose instruction he attended school winters, working nights and mornings for his board. By faithful application to his books he learned the common branches

and the methods of transacting general business. He saved what he could of his earnings and in due time was enabled to buy a team.

At the age of twenty years our subject was married to Miss Armilda J. Swisher who was born in Danville, this county, and is a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hathaway) Swisher. Mr. Swisher was a farmer by occupation and his family consisted of seven children, namely: Armilda, Cerilda, Alex, Orilla, Savilla, Thomas and Lawrence. Mr. and Mrs. Manning after their marriage settled on the J. M. Rogers' farm where they lived two years, then removed to Daniel Schutze's farm where they lived seven years. In 1869 Mr. Manning purchased eighty acres of land which was improved and considered the best farm in that region of country and which formed the nucleus of his present homestead, which embraces 200 acres. He labored early and late in tilling the soil and carrying forward the improvements upon it until 1874, then having contracted a painful disease, he left the farm and removing to Fairmount engaged in the hardware and agricultural implement business in which he made large sales, but found difficulty in collecting and thus suffered a loss approaching $2,500. Withdrawing from this venture he turned his attention to live-stock and subsequently shipped thousands of dollars worth. In the meantime he also conducted a restaurant one year and had been operating his threshing machine as before stated.

To Mr. and Mrs. Manning there have been born ten children: the eldest, Elizabeth, is the wife of Will Sanders, a farmer of Sidell Township and they have two children — Adelbert and Bessie. Ella married George Reese, a farmer of Fairmount Township and they have two children—Nellie and Fred. The other children—Grant, Sherman, Marion, Lilly, Eva, Fanny, Louis and Oscar are at home with their parents. In 1887 Mr. Manning erected a handsome and commodious residence, two stories in height, 32 x 34 feet and which is finished and furnished in modern style and forms a most attractive home. He believes in extracting all the enjoyment possible from life and in giving to his children the advantages which shall make of them good and useful citizens. He allows education, art and music to occupy an important part of his home life and gives his chief attention to the comforts and happiness of his family. Both he and his estimable wife are members of the New Light Church at Danville, in which Mr. Manning has officiated as chorister, possessing much musical talent and having a clear, strong voice for singing.

While keeping himself well posted upon political matters Mr. Manning has little ambition for the emoluments of office, although serving as School Director in his district a number of years and he is at present a Trustee. His home is one of the most hospitable in this region and no man is more kind or attentive in time of sickness or trouble among his neighbors. He possesses considerable skill as a physician and is frequently called upon instead of the regular practitioner, having excellent judgment and quite an extensive experience in treating various ailments.

HENRY F. CANADAY. The family of this name has been prominent in this county since its pioneer days when they first came within its limits and from a wilderness built up good homes, acquiring valuable property and taking no unimportant part in its advancement, socially, morally and financially. The subject of this notice has a fine estate on section 34 in Elwood Township, and which in all its details gives evidence of the supervision of a well-regulated and intelligent mind—the mind of a man possessing energy and enterprise in a marked degree. He was born at Vermilion Grove, this county, Dec. 12, 1840, and is consequently approaching the fiftieth year of his age although he would pass for a man many years younger. His life is a fine illustration of temperance and the correct habits which form the basis of good citizenship.

The father of our subject was Fred Canaday, late of Elwood Township who entered land within its limits, about 1821–22, and built up a valuable homestead upon which he spent his last years. He was born in New Market, East Tenn., and left his native State in the fall of 1820, coming to this county and settling in the wilderness among the Indians.

and wild animals. His father, Henry Canaday, brought his family North that same fall and settled near the present city of Terre Haute whence he came to this county the following spring. Henry brought with him over $4,000 in gold and silver, carrying it in a box in the front part of his wagon as he traveled overland with a team. During that journey they camped upon the present site of Indianapolis when there was nothing to mark the spot of a future great city. The wagon was drawn by a six-horse team driven by one Robert E. Barnett and in attempting to make a short turn it was tipped over. The precious box burst and the money was spilled out into a little creek. They, however, after much labor succeeded in rescuing it from the mud and water and proceeded on their journey.

The Canaday family for several generations had been born and reared in the Quaker faith and had the natural abhorrence of slavery peculiar to that peaceable and liberty-loving sect and they determined to get away from the slave country. Henry the grandfather of our subject, upon coming to this county entered several hundred acres of land which he sold to the settlers as they slowly came in. He was recognized the county over as one of its benefactors and here spent his last days.

Mrs. Charity (Haworth) Canaday, the mother of our subject was, like her husband, a native of New Market, Tenn., where they were married one day and the next day started on horseback for Vermilion County. Seven of the ten children born to this pair are still living—Jane, Mrs. Patterson, is a resident of Vermilion County; Mary A., Mrs. Isaac Larrance, lives in Topeka, Kan.; Henry F., is the next in order of birth; Isaac lives in Vermilion County; Sarah, Mrs. George Ankrum, lives in Ridge Farm; John sojourns in Vermilion County. The mother died while still a young woman, in 1840, and Frederick Canaday was subsequently married to Miss Anna Haworth, in 1849. He died Nov. 6, 1886.

The subject of this sketch completed his studies at Vermilion Grove Academy under the instruction of Gen. John C. Black. From his youth up he has been familiar with farming pursuits and chose these for his vocation. After the outbreak of the Civil War he entered the Union army as a member of Company A, 25th Illinois Infantry, in which he served two years and was in many of the important battles which followed; viz: Pea Ridge, Springfield, Mo., Stone River, Crab Orchard and subsequently served two years in Company E, 12th Kansas Mounted Infantry, being in the Red River campaign and various other engagements. After the war closed he returned to the peaceful pursuits of agriculture.

When ready to establish domestic ties of his own our subject was married Sept. 26, 1875, to Miss Maggie S. Brewer. This lady was the daughter of John Brewer, deceased, late of Parke County, Ind., and was born in Gurnsey County, Ohio. She came with her parents to Vermillion County, Ind., when a small child and later they removed to Parke County. Our subject and his wife are the parents of three children, only one of whom is living, Govern H., who was born June 3, 1886.

The farm of our subject comprises 110 acres of choice land and he also has an interest in his father's old homestead. He cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln and continues a stanch supporter of the Republican party. He has never sought office but as an ex-soldier receiving an honorable discharge, is a member in good standing of the G. A. R., and also a member of the Grand Woodmen of America. Mrs. Canaday has been a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, for the past twenty years.

John Brewer, the father of Mrs. Canaday, was born in Pennsylvania and was the son of Jacob Brewer, Jr., also a native of the Keystone State. The paternal great-grandfather was Jacob Brewer, Sr., who spelled his name "Brower" and who was a native of Amsterdam, Holland, and the son of Swybrant Brower, a millionaire of Amsterdam. John Brewer married Miss Minerva, daughter of John Priest and his wife, Mary A. Mercer, the latter a daughter of John Jacob Mercer. The last named was a native of Germany and emigrated to the United States in 1770. His grandfather was Gideon Mercer, a very wealthy man who spent his entire life in the Fatherland. John Jacob married Miss Elizabeth Gower, of Hagerstown, Md., and they had one child—Mary Ann, who married

John Priest in 1804. These families represented a wide and eminently respectable following who were people generally well-to-do and prominent and influential citizens. Both of Mrs. Canaday's grandparents on the father's side were descendants of King Philip III.

JOHN E. BOLDEN. When the Emancipation Proclamation of Lincoln was made, it broke the shackles of 3,000,000 of human beings. These slaves had remained in ignorance for generations, and their masters had considered that learning was dangerous to a colored man. When their freedom became one of the logical sequences of the great Rebellion, the question arose, Will they make good citizens? Statesmen of all shades of opinion have finally come to the conclusion that slavery is wrong, and that in all races there are men who have made a failure in life, but that the negro would in time assimilate with his white brother. Those who have so willed, and have grasped their new condition with intelligence—other things being equal—have solved the problem of life as well as a majority of other races. The man whose name appears at the head of this biography is one of those who, born in slavery, has made for himself an honorable place among men.

John E. Bolden is a blacksmith at Ridge Farm, where he enjoys a good patronage. He was born in Bedford County, Va., March 3, 1836, his father and mother being also slaves. Mr. Bolden was reared on a plantation by William Hudnel, who sold him in 1863 to one Charles Miller, at Blacksburg, Montgomery Co., Va. During Gen. Stoneman's raid, in February, 1865, the subject of this sketch ran away from slavery, and was taken in by Company M., 12th Ohio Cavalry. He remained with this company, doing his duty well, until June, 1865, when he went to East Tennessee for the purpose of entering the United States Army in a colored regiment, but he was too late. He then engaged at work at his trade, in Rheatown, Tenn., where he continued to labor until 1870, when he came to Ridge Farm, and has there since worked industriously at his trade, owning both his shop and residence. This property he has accumulated by steadfastly minding his own business, working hard and being economical.

On Feb. 6, 1865, Mr. Bolden was married to Ann E. Oble, just a few days before he ran away. He left his young wife in Virginia, and while in Tennessee he sent for her. He is the father of twelve children, seven of whom are living—Laura A., Vinnie A., John H. W., Florence L., Mabel D., Joshua W. and an infant girl. Laura married Frank Davis, the barber of Ridge Farm. Mr. Bolden has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church here for fourteen years, and his wife worships at the same church. He is a member of the colored Masonic Lodge at Danville, and is a man who is highly respected by all his acquaintances for his many sterling qualities. The dreams of Garrison, Wendel Phillips, Garrett Smith and John G. Whittier are fully illustrated as realities in the person of the subject of this sketch. They had always maintained that the colored man would some day take his place among the men of the earth, and their predictions have come true. Of course, the color line still exists in some portions of this great country, but the time is fast approaching when it will be obliterated.

JOHN BLAKENEY. This genial old pioneer of Vermilion County, although approaching his three-score and ten years presents the picture of a green old age, the culmination of a well-spent life, during which he has marked his course uprightly, lived at peace with his fellow-men and gained in a high degree their unqualified esteem. The picture of the sturdy oak, which has withstood the storms of time and maintained its strength and honor, may be well compared to the life of Mr. Blakeney. He has always been willing to "live and let live," has helped a fallen brother whenever in his power, and has been satisfied in the accumulation of sufficient of this world's goods to insure him against want in his declining years. He owns and occupies a comfort-

able home comprising seventy-seven acres of good farming land, lying on sections 4 and 5 in Georgetown Township.

A native of the Blue Grass State, our subject was born in Bourbon County April 26, 1820, and lived there until a lad of nine or ten years. Then leaving Kentucky he came with his parents to Vermilion County, Ill., in September, 1829, and completed his education as it had been begun, in a log school-house. His father, John Blakeney, was a native of Pennsylvania, and the mother, who in her girlhood was Sarah Oliver, was born in Virginia. The Blakeney family was noted for its strong men, who were almost without exception finely developed physically, and followed agricultural pursuits. The parents of our subject spent their last years in Georgetown Township. John Blakeney, Sr., lived to be seventy-seven years old, and the mother was sixty-five years old at the time of her decease. They were the parents of twelve children, namely: Martha, William, Hezekiah, Nancy, John, Thomas, Sarah J., Polly A., Melinda, Hugh, James and Angeline.

Young Blakeney grew up amid the wild scenes of life on the frontier, assisting in the development of his father's farm, and also followed the river transporting produce from Danville to New Orleans. He remained a bachelor until approaching the twenty-eighth year of his age, and was then married Feb. 10, 1848, to Miss Angeline, daughter of Edward and Mary (Ashby) Bowen, of Bourbon County, Ky. Mrs. Blakeney was a mere child when coming to Illinois in 1829. Her father secured a tract of land in Georgetown Township, Vermilion County, where he spent the remainder of his years, and died at the age of seventy-four. The mother died when comparatively a young woman and when Mrs. Blakeney was but a child, leaving four children: Angeline, Nancy, John and James Henry.

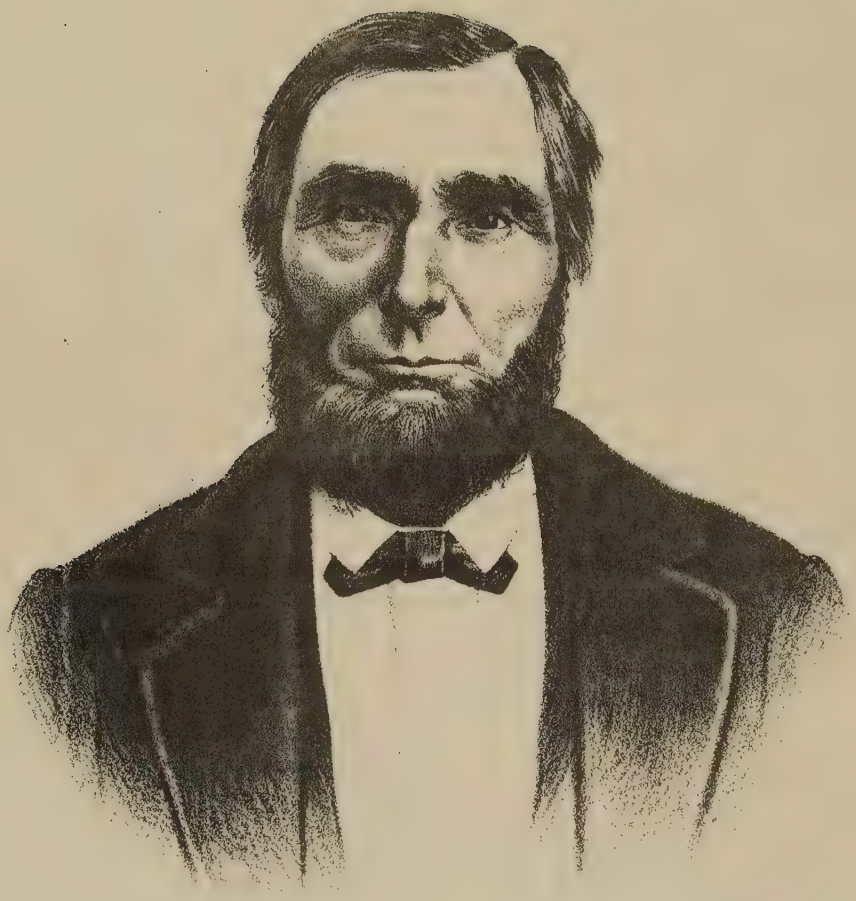
Mrs. Blakeney, after her mother's death, was taken into the home of her maternal grandfather, with whom she remained until his death, then returned to her father, who was twice married after the death of his first wife. Of his second union there were born six children and none by the third. Mrs. Blakeney still retains a faint recollection of her native county in Kentucky. Of her union with our subject there were born ten children, namely: James H., Martha J., Wesley, Mary C., who died when one year old; Francis, who also died at the age of one year; Alwilda, who died at the age of three; Lincoln, who died when a promising lad of fourteen years; Thomas W., who died at the age of eight years; Lura, who died when one year old, and an infant who died unnamed.

Both our subject and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church. Mr. Blakeney, politically, was a Whig until the abandonment of the old party, and is now a strong Republican.

James H. Blakeney, the eldest son of our subject, married Miss Charlotte Bennett, and is a resident of Summit Grove, Ind., and the father of two children, Nellie and Hazel; Martha J. married John Lacy, who is a farmer of Vermilion County, this State. They have four children—Hardy, Elbert, Goldie and Minnie; John married Josephine Hinds, and they have one child, a son, Freddie; they are residents of Georgetown Township. Mr. Blakeney has lived on his present farm for the long period of thirty-two years, and has naturally become one of the old landmarks, whose name will be held in kindly remembrance long after he has been gathered to his fathers.

WILLIAM F. BANTA, JR., proprietor of the Ridge Farm Flouring Mill and dealer in grain and hay, occupies a leading position among the business men of Ridge Farm, among whom he has been known from boyhood. He was born in Elwood Township, Dec. 9, 1857, and is the son of James H. Banta, a well known and prominent citizen, who is represented elsewhere in this work.

Our subject remained with his parents on the farm until twelve years old, then the family removed to Ridge Farm. He received a limited education, but by keeping himself posted upon current events, is at once recognized as an intelligent and well informed man. He served an apprenticeship at the miller's trade and followed this business



James Sandusky

until 1882, when he purchased the mill property which he now owns and which is operated under his supervision by other parties. The building was put up in 1871 by Davis & Co and was formerly operated by burr machinery. It is now equipped with a full set of rollers, operating by the gradual reduction process, and in which is utilized Nordyke, Marmon & Co's system of milling, together with the Eureka Separator & Smith's Purifier. A Burroughs engine of seventy-five horse power drives the machinery, and the boiler is of steel from the Atlas Engine Works of Indianapolis. This boiler is 16 inches by 14 feet in dimensions and contains sixty-two flues. The mill has a capacity of 100 barrels in twenty-four hours. It turns out the very best of flour, the Peerless brand being especially fine and pure. The Ridge Farm Mills is steadfastly growing in popularity, and the proprietor evidently possesses in an eminent degree the secret of success.

Mr. Banta, in connection with his milling operations, owns and runs the elevator at Ridge Farm, besides a large steam hay press. He usually ships about 700 car-loads of grain annually and 300 cars of baled hay. He gives employment to a number of men and has been no unimportant factor in advancing the business interests of his town. He has without question inherited from his ancestors those qualities of character which are inseparable from the successful business man and the useful citizen. He is not married.

JAMES SANDUSKY. It is now considered no small honor to have lived during the pioneer days of Central Illinois, and he who looked upon the wilderness ere the feet of white men had made their permanent inroads into this region, is viewed with more than ordinary interest. To those hardy spirits are the people of to-day indebted for the great advantages which they enjoy, the prosperous farms and villages which have arisen from the wilderness and the advance of civilization, which was led by the adventurous pioneer. To this region came the Sandusky family at a very early date, and they have left their ineffaceable mark not only by their industry and perseverance, but in the implanting of those moral principles which form the basis of all good society. Their children were reared to habits of industry and sentiments of honor, while they extended to high and low that cordial hospitality which is especially prized where people are necessarily dependent upon each other for many of the conveniences and comforts of life.

The subject of this notice and his estimable wife form no unworthy offshoots of their respective ancestral trees, which have grown and flourished and the names of which will descend to coming generations. They endured all the hardships and privations of life on the frontier, labored arduously in the building up of a homestead and reared a family of intelligent children, all but two of whom have fled from the home nest and taken their places as honored members of society. The two remaining it is hardly necessary to say form the light and joy of the household.

James Sandusky was born in Bourbon County, Ky., July 17, 1817, and has thus more than numbered his three-score years and ten. His father, Isaac Sandusky, was likewise a native of the Blue Grass State, where he attained to manhood and was married to Miss Euphemma McDowell, a maiden of his own neighborhood. Later he served in the war of 1812 and was under Gen. Harrison at the battle of Tippecanoe. He was a resident of Kentucky until the fall of 1827 and then coming to Vermilion County, Ill., settled on a tract of land near Brooks Point and built up a farm from the wilderness, where he and his estimable wife spent the remainder of their days.

In the Sandusky family there were eleven children, who were named respectively: Sarah E., Mary A., Julia A., Josiah, James, our subject, Henry Clay, Ann Eliza, Stephen A. Douglas, Thomas, Susan A. and Laura. James was a boy of ten years when his parents removed to Illinois. In preparing for the removal the father had purchased large numbers of cattle, horses and sheep, to bring with him. The journey was made overland in the primitive style, the travelers camping and cooking by the wayside and sleeping in a tent at night.

During that journey, our subject saw a cooking stove for the first time, and it was viewed not only by himself but by many others with great curiosity. This article was purchased by his father from Rafe Lytton of Cincinnati, Ohio, and brought to Vermilion County, being the first of its kind in this region.

Young Sandusky prior to the removal to the Prairie State had been married in Woodford County, Ky. Dec. 6, 1846 to Miss Mary Ann, daughter of James Green, a native of Woodford County, Ky. Her paternal grandparents were natives respectively of England and Germany. After coming to America they were married in Virginia, whence they soon afterward removed to Kentucky, settling in Woodford County, where they spent their last days. James Green upon reaching man's estate chose for his wife Miss Polly Hudson, whose family had figured conspicuously in the early history of the State and whose paternal grandfather, Raleigh Hudson of Scotch-Irish blood, did valiant service in the Revolutionary War. The Hudsons invaded the soil of Kentucky at a time when Indians were plentiful and the forest abounded with wild animals. The mother of Mrs. Sandusky was first married to William Campbell and they became the parents of six children. Of her marriage with James Green there was born one child only, a daughter, Mary Ann, in Woodford County. They were wedded in the fall of 1847 and the following spring emigrated to Illinois and settled upon land owned jointly by Mr. Green and our subject. Mr. Green departed this life in 1845 and the mother died at the home of our subject April 14, 1870.

Eleven children likewise came to bless the union of James Sandusky and his excellent wife. The eldest born, Sarah E., became the wife of Benjamin Girard of Georgetown Township and they have nine children—Emma, Della, Mary, Julia, James, Jessie, Euphemma, George and Dottie. Mary A. and Julia A. are deceased; Josiah P. married Miss Emma Boughton and they have four children—Ettie, Fred, James Gould and Grant; James I. married Miss Mary Engleman and is farming on his father's farm in Georgetown Township; they have two children—Clinton and Mattie; Henry C., a resident of Georgetown Township, married Miss Mary Pratt and they have two children—Floyd E. and Annie. Ann Eliza married Thomas Bennett of Georgetown Township and they have one child, Bertie; Stephen A. D. is a resident of Catlin Township; Thomas is sojourning in Lyons County, Neb.; Susan T. and Laura H. K. are at home with their parents.

As will be seen by referring to the sketches of Josiah, William and Abraham Sandusky, as well as that of James S. Sconce, the Sandusky family came originally from Poland where they were closely allied to royalty. In their native country their name was spelled "Sodowsky." The city of Sandusky, Ohio, derives its name from one of the earlier representatives of this family, who settled in northeastern Ohio, where the Indians had suffered numerous wrongs at the hands of the white man. In a spirit of revenge they vowed to put to death the first white person who should venture into what they esteemed their domain. This unsuspecting individual proved to be an Indian trader by the name of Sodowsky, an ancestor of our subject and who was one of their best friends. They carried out their purpose but when learning his true character deeply lamented the cruel deed. In order to partially atone for it they gave his name to the embryo town which had begun to grow up. As the whites came in the more modern name was gradually adopted.

The Sandusky's, as far back as the records go, have been mostly engaged in agricultural pursuits making a specialty of live stock and being very successful. The father of our subject brought in the first drove of good cattle from Kentucky to Illinois, in the driving of which young James assisted. He also brought in the first flock of sheep which ever graced the prairies of Vermilion County, driving them from the Blue Grass regions in the fall of 1827. Their ox-team was likewise the first driven from Kentucky to this county. Thus it will be seen the Sanduskys have borne no unimportant part in opening up this portion of Central Illinois.

Mr. Sandusky voted for William H. Harrison in 1840 but in 1856 felt that he had reason to change his political views and identified himself with the

democracy of whose principles he has since been a strong supporter. He has never sought political preferment and has never held office with the exception of serving two terms as School Director. The horses on Mr. Sandusky's farm are from a stock of horses that have been in the Sandusky family for nearly a hundred years, brought to Kentucky by his forefathers and from there to Illinois by his father. A portrait of Mr. Sandusky is shown in this work and represents a worthy member of an honored family.

SERGEANT T. W. BLAKENEY. The personal appearance of the subject of this notice must invariably attract attention in a crowd, he being fine looking and of commanding presence, with a countenance indicative of the most estimable traits of character and the bearing which signalizes a gentleman. He is the offspring of a fine old family of Irish origin, and noted for great strength, courage, endurance, honesty and patriotism.

The paternal great-grandfather of our subject was born in Ireland and crossed the Atlantic in time to assist the colonists in their struggle for independence. He was a man of more than ordinary intelligence; one who loved liberty, and whose sympathies were warmly enlisted in the American cause. At the close of the war the government owed him $1,400 for his services as a soldier. This he refused to accept, however, claiming that an Irishman could afford to do this much for the sake of citizenship and independence. He was married and became the father of a family, and his son, John, fought all through the war of 1812. Later he served in the Black Hawk War. True to the instincts of patriotism which had distinguished his ancestry, the subject of this sketch, soon after the outbreak of the great rebellion, proffered his services as a soldier of the Union army, and, like his ancestors, gave his support to the cause of freedom.

Mr. Blakeney is a native of this county, and was born in Georgetown Township, July 19, 1842. His father, William Blakeney, was born in Bourbon County, Kentucky, and married Miss Susan Ellis, a native of Greene County, Ohio. The latter is the oldest woman pioneer of the county, having come hither when a young lady, with her parents as early as 1821. She is now seventy-four years old, while Mr. Blakeney is seventy-six. The latter came to this county in 1829. He traveled over the State on foot, visiting the lead mines at Galena, and fought in the Black Hawk War in 1832. He was a splendid specimen of manhood physically, being of powerful frame and very active. He was acknowledged as the strongest man west of the Wabash, and could outrun any man in this section, either white man or Indian.

To the parents of our subject there was born a family of twelve children, eight of whom grew to mature years, are still living and have families of their own. Those named are as follows: John R., who died young; Sarah; William Anderson, who died in childhood; Thomas W., our subject; Rachael, Nancy, Wright E., Martha, Mary, Susan, and two infants who died unnamed. Thomas W. was born July 19, 1842 and had a pioneer experience in common with the other boys of Georgetown Township, attending upon his studies in a log school-house, and becoming at a very early age familiar with farm pursuits. Like his forefathers he grew up with almost perfect health and a muscular frame, remaining with the family and assisting in the labors around the homestead until the outbreak of the Civil War. Then in response to the call of President Lincoln for "300,000 more" he enlisted at Catlin, as a Union soldier in Company K, 125th Illinois Infantry, under command of Capt. George W. Cook. He was mustered in at Danville, and drilled on the old fair grounds. At the outset he was elected Corporal, and after leaving Danville they repaired first to Cincinnati, Ohio, and then to Covington and Louisville, Ky. Later they moved on to Perryville, where our subject first saw the smoke of battle in an active engagement, one month lacking five days, from the time of his enlistment. Soon afterward he was in the battles of Chickamauga and Mission Ridge, and in the former was wounded in the thigh by the explosion of a shell, although not seriously hurt. He accompanied his regiment on the Knoxville campaign and

participated in the siege of Atlanta. While charging up Kenesaw Mountain he was seriously wounded, and to this day carries five buckshot received at that time. This division of the army was engaged fifty-two days around Atlanta, and after the fall of the city the regiment of our subject was assigned to the command of Gen. Sherman and entered upon the famous march to the sea. In the meanti ne at Atlanta, on account of bravery and gallant services, Mr. Blakeney was promoted to Sergeant-Major, which rank he held until the close of the war. After leaving Atlanta he went up through the Carolinas to Washington, being present at the grand review June 22, 1865, and was there mustered out and received his honorable discharge in that same month.

Upon leaving the army Mr. Blakeney re-engaged in the peaceful pursuits of farm life, making his home with his father until his marriage. This most important and interesting event of his life was celebrated Oct. 22, 1868, the bride being Miss Matilda Brooks, and the wedding taking place at her home in Catlin. The newly wedded pair resided in Georgetown Township, this county, a number of years, then removed to Beadle County, Dak., where Mr. Blakeney purchased 320 acres of land and improved a farm, which he still owns. After a three years residence in that place they returned to this county and settled at Westville, where they have since remained.

In addition to serving as Township Assessor, Mr. Blakeney travels for the Bible house of Chandler Bros., of Rockford, and is considered one of their most successful salesmen. While in Dakota he became a charter member of the T. O. Howe G. A. R. Post at Altoona, Beadle County, and religiously, is with his estimable wife a prominent member of the Christian Church at Westville. He takes a great interest in the Sunday-school work and has for years served as Superintendent, never missing a single appointment for the last ten years. Politically he is a strong Republican.

Mrs. Blakeney is the daughter of John and Louisa (Black) Brooks, a sketch of whom may be found elsewhere in this volume. They were among the first settlers along the eastern line of this county. Benjamin Brooks, the paternal grandfather of Mrs. Brooks, settled at Brooks Point at a very early day. The Point was named in honor of Benjamin Brooks. His wife, Matilda Manville, was the first white woman coming into the county. To our subject and his estimable wife there were born three children, the eldest of whom, Mabel N., died at the age of eleven years and six months; Lou P. is the only child surviving and lives at home with her parents. A son, Brooks, died at the age of three years.

ASA ANKRUM, late of section 26, Harrison's Purchase, Elwood Township, was born at Yankee Point, this county, March 10, 1837, and died Jan. 25, 1886. His father, David Ankrum, was a pioneer of this county and a prominent man of his time. He came here when land was cheap, and consequently improved his opportunities, and when he died was well-off in this world's goods.

Asa Ankrum was one of the best citizens of this county, and by frugality, coupled with good judgment, he left his family above want. He received his education at the common schools incident to the early days of Illinois. He spent all his younger days at home with his father on the farm, where he worked hard, thus aiding his father in getting the competence of which he was possessed. On the 1st of February, 1865, he married Rhoda C. Mendenhall, whose father, James Mendenhall, removed to Hamilton County, Ind., at an early day, and located in this county in 1857. Her father was born in Greene County, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Ankrum became the parents of ten children, five of whom are living: Ollie C., Ira A., Meda M., Minnie J., and Oris B. Mr. Ankrum was an ardent Republican, but he never sought official honors. He deemed it his duty to support a party which has done so much for intelligence and industry. He was not connected with any church, but his purse was always open to aid any enterprise which sought to support the gospel or aid the poor. In 1880 he erected an elegant three-story house, which contains thirteen rooms and three halls, finished in elegant style throughout. It is well furnished with every-

thing calculated to produce comfort. At the time of his death, Mr. Ankrum owned over 220 acres, but was somewhat in debt, which was liquidated by his widow and sons since. They have built a large barn, purchased implements, wagons and carriages, and have money loaned and interest coming in. They have also met with some losses since the father's death, among which may be mentioned the burning of a tenant house. On the whole, the father left his interest in prudent hands.

Mrs. Ankrum's father, James Mendenhall, was born near Xenia, Greene Co., Ohio, whence he removed to the State of Indiana, settling in Elwood Township in 1857, as before indicated, and in in every move he made he bettered himself. He married Rebecca Campbell, and they have five children living: Priscilla, Mrs. Patten; Ira; Ryan G.; Mrs. Ankrum; and Jane, Mrs. Elliott. Three daughters died after attaining their maturity: Sarah, Mrs. Reeve; Lydia, Mrs. Newlin; Almeda, Mrs. Thompson. Mr. Mendenhall was a prominent farmer, in which avocation he exhibited a great deal of interest, and he held the office of School Treasurer for several years. He died in 1878, while his wife passed away April 5, 1886. They were consistent members of the Friends' Church, and were good people in all things.

JAMES J. HEALY is an excellent example for young men just embarking in the field of active life, of what may be accomplished by a man beginning poor, but honest, prudent and industrious. In early life he enjoyed but few advantages, for his school days were limited, and he had neither wealth nor position to aid him in starting. He relied solely on his own efforts and his own conduct to win for him success. He is a careful, conscientious man, ever adhering to the dictates of his own conscience to guide him.

Mr. Healy is the manager of the large general merchandise store in Indianola, known under the firm name of Pattison & Healy. He was born in Boston, Mass., November, 1855, where his father, Patrick Healy, was a mechanical engineer on the Pittsburg, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad. His mother, Mary Tracey, was a native of Canada and was reared upon a farm. The father is now residing in Chicago, while the mother is dead. They had eight children, five of whom grew to manhood, as follows: James Joseph, William, Thomas, Dennis and Elizabeth. The subject of this sketch began his life work as a brick carrier in Chicago, his wages being fifty cents a day. He was thrown entirely upon his own resources while very young, and had he not been naturally gifted with a buoyant disposition he perhaps would have fainted by the wayside. Being conscious of the necessity of an education he attended the evening schools at Chicago. About this time he became connected with the Chicago *Post* as a newsboy, and while thus engaged he one day happened to draw the attention of a gentleman from St. Joseph, Mo., who persuaded him to go to that city, for he perceived the intelligence of the lad and knew he would some day become an able man.

In Missouri the boy was treated kindly by his newly-made friend and his family. He was enabled to take a commercial course at the St. Joseph College, after the completion of which he returned to Chicago and engaged as a book-keeper for a South Water Street firm, where he had ample opportunities for learning the ways of the world, and to gain an insight into business. After a three-years' engagement with this firm he accepted a position with a retail grocer and wholesale liquor dealer of Chicago, and for four years faithfully attended to the affairs of that concern in the capacity of book-keeper. His firm seeing his bright and capable abilities, induced him to accept the position of commercial traveler which he did, acquiring many friends and gaining steadily in the esteem of his employers. Having gained the warm friendship of Mr. Pattison while in Chicago, it was but natural that he should make the acquaintance of his sister, Emma, to whom he was united in marriage. She is the daughter of Elijah and Mary (Cox) Pattison, the latter of whom is now sixty-six years old and living in Vermilion County, where she was born, being one of the oldest of the living natives of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Healy made their home in Chicago for about two years, and although

being perfectly temperate in his habits, yet Mr. Healy found there was a strong prejudice against liquor dealing, and that social advantages were denied him, that by right were his. He therefore concluded to abandon the business, though by so doing he relinquished a good situation.

In 1882 the firm of Pattison & Healy was formed and they engaged in their present business, at first on a small scale, but which since has steadily increased until it is now paying well. On Sept. 16, 1885 he was appointed Postmaster of Indianola, and has proved himself the best incumbent of that office his town has ever had. He resigned on March 20, 1889, a move which was much regretted by all regardless of politics. He is Secretary of the Building and Loan Association, and also Secretary of the Masonic lodge here. Politically, he is a strong Democrat and an officer of the Democratic club. He is serving as Collector of Taxes in Carroll Township, and in all these positions he has acquitted himself with singular fidelity and honesty of purpose. Mr. and Mrs. Healy are the parents of one child, Anna May.

JOHN HUMRICHOUS, founder of the village of Humrick, is recognized as one of the leading farmers and stock-raisers of Elwood Township, a self-made man—one who began life at the foot of the ladder, and by hard work and good management has arrived at a position very near the top. Unlike many men his struggles and sacrifices have not made him cold or avaricious, but on the contrary he is accounted as one of the most hospitable and public-spirited men of his community. Success has attended his efforts and he is now in possession of a fine property lying in the southeastern part of the township on section 24. Here he has all the modern improvements associated with the well regulated country estate, besides a snug bank account, which will insure his declining years against anxiety and want.

A native of York County, Pa., our subject was born Dec. 30, 1823, and is the son of John Humrichous, who was born in what was then the Kingdom of Hanover, and who came to the United States after his marriage, about 1818. His wife, formerly Elizabeth Little, was a native of his own province, and to them there were born twelve children, eleven of whom lived to mature years, and of whom our subject was the sixth in order of birth. The latter, like his brothers and sisters, only enjoyed very limited school advantages, attending about six months in all, paying therefor three cents per day.

The father of our subject died when John was in the sixteenth year of his age, and he then had to look out for himself as well as the family. He worked out by the month and assisted his mother until after her second marriage. Later he learned the carpenter trade, which he followed ten years. He left his native State in 1851, proceeding to Dayton, Ohio, where he sojourned two years. His next stopping place was at Horse Shoe Bend, on the Little Vermillion River in Indiana, and from there in 1856 he went to Bloomfield, Ill. The year following he traveled through Kansas and Missouri, but finally returned east as far as Vermillion County, Ind., and resided in Newport Township until the fall of 1864. He then came to Elwood Township, this county, settling where he now lives, and thereafter gave his attention almost exclusively to farming pursuits.

At the age of twenty-six years, in May, 1850, our subject was married to Miss Susannah Keller, a native of his own county in Pennsylvania and the daughter of John Keller, deceased. This union resulted in the birth of eleven children, only five of whom are living: John A. married Miss Malinda Menges, is a resident of Elwood Township and the father of three children—Ada, John and Jonathan; Susie is the wife of Charles Waggaman, of Elwood Township, and they have two children, John and Myrtle; Laura married Charles Brown, of Vermillion County, Ind; they have no children; Emma is the wife of Robert Slaughter, of Bethel, this county, and they have two children, Artie and an infant unnamed; Melissa is the wife of George A. Collier, and lives with her father; she has one child, John William.

The property of our subject embraces over 400 acres of fine land, to which he has given his main

attention, having no desire for the responsibilities of office or the anxieties of a public life. He has, however, served as School Director and Justice of the Peace, and is recognized as a citizen of more than ordinary intelligence. Socially, he belongs to the Masonic lodge of Ridge Farm, and with his wife is a member in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Bethel.

MOSES L. LARRANCE is a wealthy pioneer of Elwood and is a man who is very prominent in the affairs of his township. He owns 340 acres of land, unparalleled for its fertility, on section 25, range 12, where he carries on in a successful manner general farming.

Mr. Larrance was born in Jefferson County, Tenn., on May 9, 1818. His father, John Larrance, was a native of North Carolina. He came to Edgar County in 1827 settling in Elwood Township, two miles north of where Moses L. now resides. The land was then in its wild state, but he had his choice of nearly the whole county, and he chose well. He entered 240 acres of land for which he paid the Government price, and thereon erected a cabin, made of round logs and with one room. The floor was constructed of logs split in two, with the flat side up; clapboard roof and doors of the same material. They lived happily for one year in this house and were determined to make a comfortable home though they were obliged to suffer privations innumerable in order to do it. In those days stoves could be procured only by the rich, and in the cabin of the pioneer they were an unknown luxury. The good mother cooked in a long handled skillet by the fire-place, and did her baking in an old fashioned brick oven. When Moses was eighteen years old, his father went to Chicago and bought a cook-stove, which was a curiosity to the boy, as this was the first one he ever saw. They lived in a frugal manner, never complaining, but happy in the enjoyment of good health, and that in the future they would reap their harvest. The mother of Moses L. was Ruth, the daughter of John Mills, a pioneer of this county. She was the mother of nine children, five of whom are living, namely: Moses L., Leroy, William, Isaac, and Lanty. Those deceased are Edith, Jane, Richard, Jonathan and an infant.

Moses L. Larrance received his early education in the old school-house with the greased paper windows, stick and clay chimney, slab benches and wall desks, of the pioneer days of Illinois. The boys of those days were fortunate if they secured three months' school, as their parents were, of course, unable to pay a teacher for a longer term. He was married Nov. 1, 1838 to Nancy, daughter of Aaron Mendenhall, who came from North Carolina to Greene County, Ohio, during the year 1812. His father, Richard Mendenhall was killed by the Indians during that war. Aaron purchased a farm from the Government in 1824, settling in Carroll Township, where Silas Baird now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Larrance are the parents of thirteen children, nine living and grown up. The following is a record of the children now alive. Their names are: John, William, Betsey, Richard, Emily, Charity, Lydia, David, and Paris. John married Mary Baum, they have six children—Ella, Frank, Henry, Rosa, Cass, and Cephas; William first married Ella Patterson, by whom he had four children, two of whom are living—Charles and Cassius. His wife died and he married Betsey Frasier; Betsey married Carroll Fellows and they have seven children—Sylvanus, Cyrus, Louisa, Charley, Oliver, Alice, and Jane; Richard married Jane Wheeler, and they are the parents of seven children—Allen J., Bert, Maude, Frederick, Art, Thomas, and Samuel; Emily married John Canaday, they have five children—Cora, Grace, Charity J., Florence and Flora; Charity married Frank Thompson, who have two children—Odbert and Golden; Lydia married William Nier, they have two children—Ida and Mark; David married Caroline Tuggle, and they are the parents of three children, two of whom are living—Moses L. and Morton M.; Paris married Martha Snyder, they had one child—Viola, who is deceased.

Mr. Larrance at this time owns 340 acres of land and has given 600 acres to his children, 180 acres of which he entered from the Government. He belongs to the Republican party and has never

sought official honors. He is a member of the Friends' Church at Vermilion Grove. Mr. and Mrs. Larrance began life with nothing; have worked hard and by good management they are now enjoying a comfortable fortune, and they deserve it.

WILLIAM SANDUSKY. The Sandusky Bros., William and Harvey, are two of the most wealthy and prominent men in this county, and have distinguished themselves as successful live-stock breeders, in which business they have engaged for many years, the latter bringing the first car load of thorough-bred Short-horn cattle to this county in the spring of 1862. They were purchased from the celebrated breeder of the great trotter "Maude S.," R. A. Alexander, who was at that time in company with Jerry Duncan and James Hall, forming the most illustrious trio of breeders at that time in America.

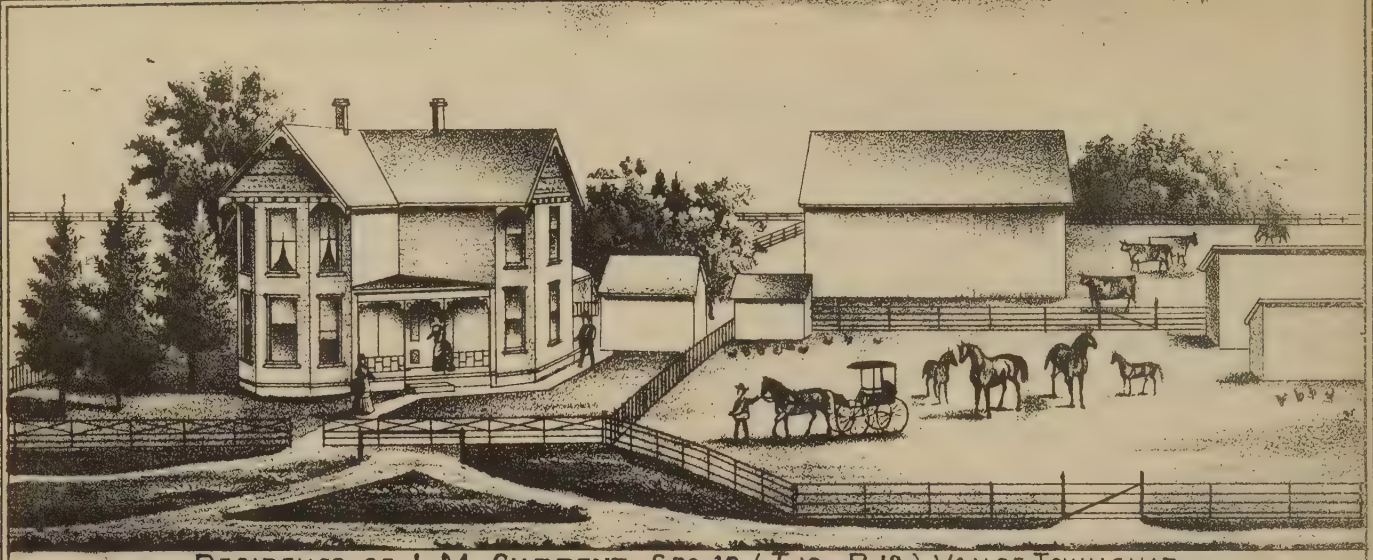
The subject of this notice is a gentleman largely endowed by nature with some remarkable qualities, possessing sound common sense and a fine judgment, broad and liberal-minded in his views, an ardent lover of national liberty and a strong believer in the Republican theory of protection for America and all its citizens. His native place was Bourbon County, Ky., and he was born Nov. 19, 1826. When he was a mere child the family left the Blue Grass State, being transported to Ohio (via Cincinnati) and Indiana, whose houses were mostly log cabins, and passing through Indianapolis, their outfit consisting of three wagons, two drawn by four horses each and one by an ox team.

The father of our subject had visited the West prior to this time and started out for permanent settlement in the fall of 1829. William was educated in a log school house and grew up amid the wild scenes of life on the frontier, as Central Illinois was then considered the far West. The first time he went to Chicago he rode on a load of produce hauled by two yoke of oxen, which were fed on a spot near the present site of the Commercial Hotel. The youth of that period were at an early age inured to labor, and young Sandusky, like his comrades, grew up strong and healthful and soon after reaching his majority began to lay his plans for a home of his own. He was married in April, 1848, when twenty-two years old to Miss Mary E., daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Weaver) Baum, further mention of whom will be made in the sketch of Frank Baum on another page in this volume.

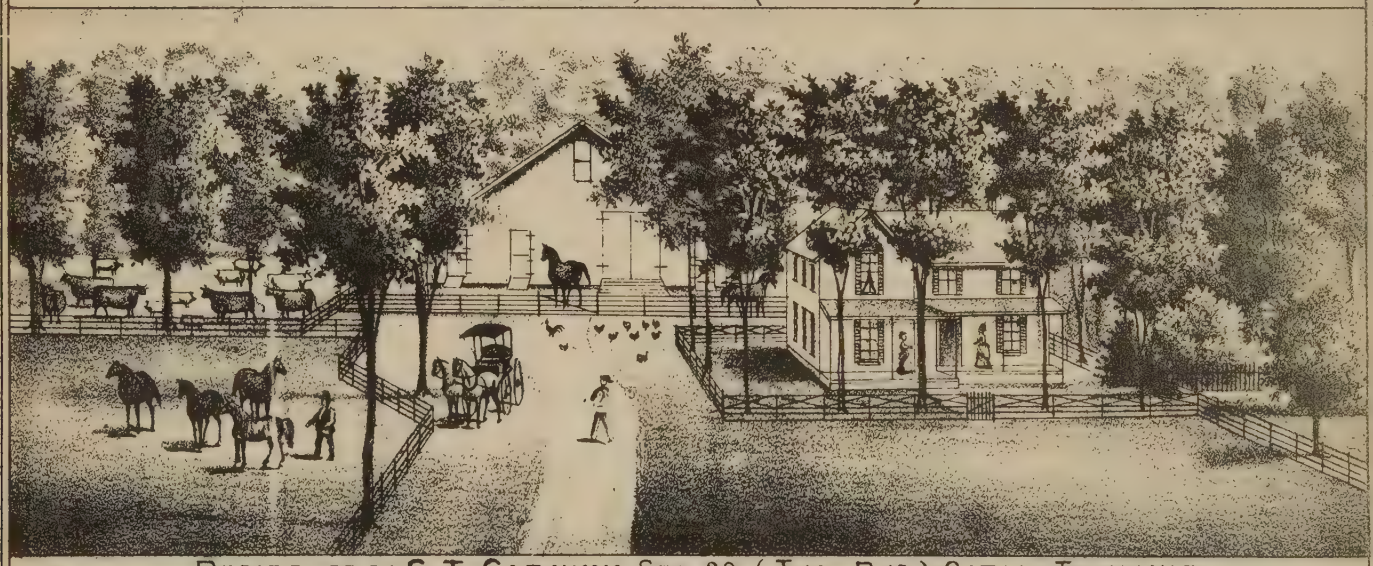
The earliest records of the Weaver family indicates them to have been of Scotch-Irish descent, who upon emigrating to this country settled in Maryland. Michael Weaver, the paternal grandfather of Mrs. Sandusky, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War and was a very wealthy man. He was born in Maryland, whence he removed to Pennsylvania and from there to Ohio, after which he resided in Brown and Clermont counties. He set out for Illinois in 1828, in which year the parents of Mrs. Sandusky also came to this State. The grandfather was a peculiar man in many respects, possessing a high sense of honor and justice, benevolent and hospitable, and was so extremely conscientious that he would never accept more than six per cent. for his money, although he could have loaned it sometimes at forty per cent. Nothing pleased him better than to assist those who would try to help themselves, while he was decidedly averse to speculation of any kind. He would never charge more than twenty-five cents per bushel for his corn under any circumstances, as he declared that he could raise it for that and it was worth no more. He lived to be a centennarian and Mrs. Sandusky gave him a reception on the anniversary of his one hundreth birthday, which was made the occasion of a very cheerful gathering of friends and relatives and will be long remembered by those who participated in it.

To the parents of Mrs. Sandusky there were born eleven children, viz.: Oliver, Mary E., Susan, Catherine, Francis, Charles, Emeline, Samuel, William and Angeline. After the death of the mother when Mary E., the wife of our subject, was a maiden probably of seventeen years, Mr. Weaver was married the second time and became the father of four more children.

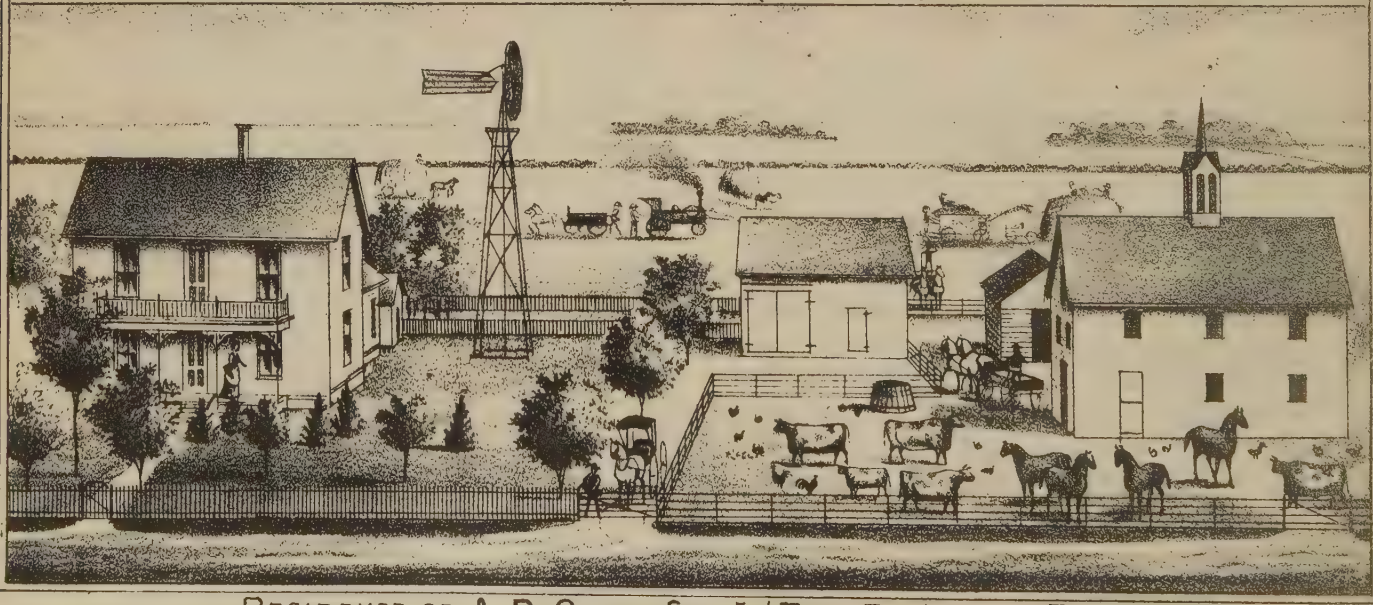
After their marriage Mr. Sandusky and his young



RESIDENCE OF J. M. CURRENT, SEC. 19. (T. 18 - R. 13.) VANCE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF C. T. CARAWAY, SEC. 29. (T. 19 - R. 12.) CATLIN TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF A. D. OWEN, SEC. 5. (T. 23 - R. 11.) GRANT TOWNSHIP.

wife settled on the farm where they have since lived, and expended their best efforts in the construction of a homestead. As may be supposed it bears but little resemblance to its original condition, being then but a tract of wild land, with no improvements to speak of. One of the first tasks to which Mr. Sandusky set himself was the planting of an orchard, the trees of which have now become almost of giant size. Gradually he erected the various buildings needed for the general purposes of agriculture, and for a number of years labored early and late in the cultivation of his land bringing about the comforts and conveniences essential to the happiness of a home. Although almost uniformly successful, he at one time met with a loss of $30,000 through one of the Presidents of the Exchange Bank of Danville. He has handled thousands of beef cattle, also thoroughbred Short-horns and has now a very fine herd—thirty head of registered animals.

As a lover of the equine race Mr. Sandusky is now paying special attention to thorough-bred running horses, of which he has ten or twelve fine animals, including the trotting stallion, "Wilful Boy," a standard-bred three-year old of great speed and value. Mr. Sandusky was at one time the owner of 220 acres of land upon which he operated largely as a general farmer and stock-raiser. He keeps himself well posted, not only upon matters connected with agriculture, but of national interest and is thoroughly opposed to secret orders. He cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln with whom he was well acquainted, and frequently heard him relate some of his characteristic yarns. The Republican party finds no more sincere or earnest follower than Mr. Sandusky, although he is no office-seeker and has mingled very little in public affairs.

The five children born to our subject and his excellent wife are recorded as follows: Sarah J. died at the age of two years; Caroline is the wife of James Snapp, a farmer of Carroll Township; she has three children, two by a former husband and one by Mr. Snapp. Rochester, who has inherited his father's love for fine horses, is an expert in this line and remains at the home farm; Addie is the wife of J. T. McMillen, a lumberman of Danville; she has four children—William, Nell, Rochester and Edmund. Caroline and Addie were both students of Illinois Female College and Miss Belle attended the Female Seminary at Morgan Park, near Chicago; she is now at home with her parents. Rochester was graduated from Bryant & Stratton's Business College.

Josiah Sandusky, the father of our subject, is one of the wealthiest men in this county, owning 1,000 acres of land in Carroll Township and dealing extensively in live-stock, including fine road and trotting horses. He was born Sept. 11, 1837, in Kentucky and is the son of Abraham Sodowsky, whose forefathers were natives of Poland, whence originated the name which has since been Americanized into its present form. Abraham Sodowsky was born in Bourbon County, Ky., March 29, 1793, and married Miss Jane McDowell, also a native of that county and born Dec. 16, 1792. The family were among the earliest settlers of that county, locating there when Indians were still plentiful.

The earliest records of this family take us back to one Sodowsky, a descendant of the Royal family of Poland and a distinguished citizen who was finally banished from the realm for some part which he had taken in political affairs. We find the forefathers of our subject were first represented in America in 1756 and they gained favor with the Colonists on account of their high bearing and strict integrity. One married a sister of Gov. Inslip and operated largely as an Indian trader. He was finally murdered by the Indians in the vicinity of Lake Erie. He was a hunter and a trader and his death was the result of a mistake, as the savages had been imposed upon by the whites and in the fury of their revenge attacked the first white man they met, not recognizing who it was at the time, as he had been their best friend. They regretted their deed greatly and in order to partly atone for it named the Bay in his honor, also the two towns which afterward sprung up and are now familiarly known as Upper and Lower Sandusky. The McDowell family were likewise early settlers of America and pioneers of Kentucky. The paternal grandparents of our subject were married in Bourbon County, that State, and emigrated to Illinois in 1837, settling on the farm now

occupied by Josiah Sandusky. The old cabin still stands near its original site, having for its companion the stately residence erected by Josiah Sandusky in 1872. Eight children were born of this union the father of whom was successful in accumulating a good property and died in 1865. His wife had passed away the year previously; Josiah, the father of our subject, was the youngest of their family. He grew up a sturdy and healthful youth, honest and industrious and acquired a practical education in the common school, finally succeeding to the management of the farm of 500 acres which was given him by his father. Upon this he and his brother Abraham operated together and the parents were cared for by them until their decease. Grandfather Sandusky was a first-class business man and his sons wisely submitted to his counsels during his lifetime. Religiously, he was a strong Presbyterian and very kind to the poor and unfortunate. His death was greatly mourned, not only by his immediate family, but by the entire community. Harvey was the only one of the children to retain the Polish name of Sodowsky, the rest adopting the Anglicised pronunciation. On the 18th of December, 1873, Josiah Sandusky was wedded to Miss Susan Moreland, daughter of Thomas and Catherine (Hedges) Moreland who were of English ancestry and coming to Illinois in 1857 settled in Carroll Township.

Mrs. Susan Sandusky was born in Bourbon County, Ky., and was a child of six years when her parents came to this county. She attended the Sisters' school at St. Mary's, near Terre Haute, became a musician and finely accomplished lady. In 1872 the father of our subject erected an elegant brick residence at a cost of $20,000, which, with its surroundings made one of the most beautiful homes in the county. Later he added 500 acres to his farm. The Sandusky family has always been noted for its dealings and successes in the live-stock business and the father of our subject usually keeps a herd of fifty to sixty head of thoroughbred cattle, numbers of which he exhibits at the State and county fairs and is in the habit of carrying off the blue ribbons. He has sold cattle for breeding purposes to parties in nearly every State in the Union. He also is a lover of fine horses, keeping about thirty-five or forty head of road and trotting thorough-breds, many of them being very valuable and never having had a bridle on them. He has a one-half-mile track and employs a competent trainer to take charge of the stables. Several of his horses have shown a record of 2:19.

In addition to his stock operations the elder Sandusky has swine, poultry and Merino sheep, bred from the best strains and has probably done more than any other man in the county to raise the standard of its live stock. He is a Republican, "dyed in the wool," having cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, but meddles very little with public affairs and has kept aloof from the offices.

GIDEON T. BAUM, one of the well-known Baum family of Carroll Township, is recognized as a very industrious and enterprising young farmer and has a beautiful home on section 29. Here with his estimable and amiable wife he has built up what might be likened to a little paradise, and is apparently surrounded with all the good and desirable things of life. His natural proclivities are such as have gained him the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens and he thus occupies a good position socially as well as financially.

The father of our subject was Charles Baum, a sketch of whom will be found on another page in this volume. Gideon T. was born Oct. 12, 1860, at the old homestead in Carroll Township, and was the fourth son and fifth child of his parents. His boyhood days were spent in a manner common to that of farmer's sons and when reaching the twenty-fourth year of his age he was married Nov. 13, 1884 to Miss Clara, daughter of Elijah and Susan (Jones) Lucas.

The father of Mrs. Baum is a native of Georgetown, Ky., and her mother of Harrodsburg, that State. The paternal great-grandfather was of English descent and closely allied to royality; her mother's people were from Maryland. The Lucas family removed from Kentucky in 1876 and the

parents of Mrs. Baum are now living retired at Archie, in Sidell Township. Mr. Lucas is sixty-eight years of age and his good wife is ten years his junior. They are the parents of four children, and the eldest, George, is a resident of Hume. Charles makes his home in Archie; James likewise remains with his parents; Clara was born at Harrodsburg, Ky., where she lived until a girl of eleven years then came with her parents to Illinois. They first settled near Georgetown and the father occupied himself at farming until retiring from the active labors of life.

Mr. and Mrs. Baum after their marriage settled on the farm which they now own, and which embraces 215 acres of fertile land. The residence had been put up the summer previous to their marriage. The two children born of this union are a daughter and a son—Lulu Weaver and Earl Lucas. Mrs. Baum is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church. Our subject, politically, supports the principles of the Democratic party.

CYRUS CHARLES BAUM, the fourth "Charlie" in the Baum genealogy, and a member of the popular and well-known family of that name in this county, is a sober, industrious, intelligent young man, and rapidly becoming wealthy. He has a charming home, a very attractive and accomplished wife who possesses rare musical talent, and, in short, is apparently surrounded by a large portion of that which makes life desirable and satisfactory. His well-regulated farm is pleasantly located on section 29 in Carroll Township, and comprises 250 acres of choice land thoroughly developed.

Of Charles W. and Catherine (Weaver) Baum, the parents of our subject, a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Cyrus C. was the second son and third child in a family of six, and was born in Carroll, Feb. 18, 1853. His boyhood and youth were spent in a comparatively uneventful manner, first at the common school and then at the graded school in Indianola, while during the vacations he employed himself in a useful manner around the homestead. From boyhood up he has been temperate and of correct habits, and upon reaching his majority, his father presented him with a large tract of land, which he traded for his present farm in 1884. To this latter he has given his undivided attention for the last five years, to what good purpose its present condition indicates. In 1876 Mr. Baum was united in marriage with Miss Emma, daugher of Allen and Alma Gilkey, who were both natives of Kentucky. They left the Blue Grass regions at an early date, and settled in this county during its pioneer days. Of this union there was born one child, a daughter, Lelia, who is now a bright girl of ten years, and is cared for with a mother's affection by the present wife of our subject. Mrs. Emma (Gilkey) Baum departed this life Oct. 5, 1880.

Our subject contracted a second marriage, Nov. 28, 1887, with Miss Josie, daughter of Josephus Baum, a native of Clermont County, Ohio. The maiden name of her mother was Sarah Beall, and she was a native of the same county as her husband. Mr. Baum was a blacksmith by trade, and, before leaving Ohio, lived at Point Isabel, and in Bainbridge, Ross County. He came to Illinois in 1875, and settled at Ridge Farm, where he is still engaged at his trade and is now probably fifty-nine years old. His good wife is ten years his junior. They are the parents of seven children, viz: Albert, Josie, Jessie, Lelia, Maggie, Charles and Minnie.

Mrs. Josie (Baum) Baum was born at Point Isabel, Clermont Co., Ohio, Sept. 6, 1869, and was a young maiden of fifteen years when her parents removed to Bainbridge. Two years later they came to Illinois, and she completed her studies in the High School at Ridge Farm. She received a careful home training from an excellent mother, and apparently takes a loving pride in the adornment of her home and making it the dearest spot on earth to those immediately in its precincts. She is a tasteful performer on the piano, and the home circle is often enlivened by music and the pleasant intercourse of friends.

Mr. Baum, politically, like his father and brothers, gives his unqualified support to the Democratic party, although he meddles very little

with public affairs, preferring to give his time and attention to the improvement of his farm and the comfort and happiness of those by whom he is connected by the most sacred of earthly ties.

THOMAS HOOPES. The old pioneers, who are fast passing away, are naturally looked upon with that interest and respect with which mankind is prone to regard those things which, when once departed, can never be recalled. These thoughts involuntarily force themselves upon the mind in contemplating the career of the subject of this sketch, who was the first settler at Hoopeston, and in whose honor it was named. He came to this county, and invested in land Aug. 9, 1853. Returning to Ohio, he remained there until April 8, 1855, when he with his family removed to this county, and endured his full share of the hardships and privations of life in a new settlement, operating as a tiller of the soil a series of years, and is now enjoying the fruits of his labors amid the comforts of a pleasant and well-ordered home in the southeastern part of the village, which has been the object of his fostering care. He retired from the active labors of life in June, 1882, and occupies a tasteful and commodious brick residence at the corner of Penn and Fourth streets. He is the owner of a good property, which he accumulated solely by his own industry and perseverance. He owns 2,233 acres of fine land, contracted to young men, and upon which they pay a low interest. He also controls 5,180 acres in his own name, making the total of his land holdings 7,413 acres.

Mr. Hoopes was born on the 26th of June, 1806, in a log cabin in the woods of what was then Jefferson County, but is now the southeast corner of Harrison County, Ohio. His father in 1810 removed to a point seven miles distant in the same county, and there our subject sojourned until 1846. He pursued his studies mostly at home under the instruction of his mother, and also attended a private school. He remained a member of the parental household until reaching his majority, soon after which time occurred the death of his father, and the property was divided. Thomas, in 1829, purchased a two-thirds interest in the estate, and carried on the improvements, which had been begun, clearing the land of the remaining timber upon it and preparing the soil for cultivation. There being six children in the family, the share of Thomas, estimated to be $334.04 in value, was accordingly one-sixth of the estate, and in contracting to buy out the other heirs, subject to the mother's life interest, he was obliged to go into debt. The task before him, he was aware, required more than an ordinary amount of courage and perseverance, but nature had generously endowed him with these qualities, and from that modest beginning he succeeded in building up the ample property of which he is now the owner.

Our subject continued on the old farm until the summer of 1846, and on the 30th of July that year, was united in marriage with Miss Anna Gray, of of the same county. Shortly afterward they removed to the vicinity of Marion, Ohio, where Mr. Hoopes purchased a farm of 803 acres on what was familiarly known as Sandusky Plains, and added 100 acres three years later. It was nearly fenced and has been largely devoted by our subject to pasturage. Mr. Hoopes began the improvement of his property, and in 1850 put up one of the first brick houses in that locality. He devoted his land mostly to grazing, and gathered together a large flock of sheep. He also took in cattle to feed, and continued this course profitably for a period of nine years. His property naturally increased in value, and became the source of a comfortable income.

In 1853, however, Mr. Hoopes decided to see what lay beyond, and accordingly disposed of his interest in the Buckeye State, and after residing for a year in Marion Village came here to buy, moving here with his family in 1855. There were then but few settlers in Grant Township, this county, and frequently the traveler would go from fifty to 100 miles without passing a farm, a large proportion of the land still belonging to the Government. Mr. Hoopes at once bought of W. I. Allen 480 acres, upon which he established a homestead, and was uniformly successful in his labors as an agricultur-

ist and a stock-raiser. He later purchased additional land, and in due time became the owner of 7,413 acres; besides this he sold several thousand acres at different times. The first house which he put up was a frame structure of fair proportions, located at the top of a hill on the old "Chicago Road," lying north of the present site of the town. He occupied this with his family for a number of years, and added other buildings as time passed on. He still continued sheep-raising, and frequently pastured large droves of cattle for other men. From the first he made it a rule to keep out of debt, live within his income, and meet his obligations as they became due. Mr. Hoopes, in 1863, disposed of his flocks of sheep on account of the difficulty in getting help to look after them, and at the same time laid aside many of the cares which had been his for many years. Since that time he has taken life more easily. On the 4th of July, 1871, the track of what is now the Danville & Vincennes Railroad was laid across what is now Main street, and the year following the Lake Erie & Western began running its trains. Mr. Hoopes, always a man of wise forethought, judged that here would be a good site for a town, and accordingly commenced laying out a portion of his farm in town lots. He did not undertake town-making, but laid out his land after it had been started. Thereafter he engaged in selling these lots and looking after the interests of the embryo village. The town was named Hoopeston by one of the prospectors of a railroad. Mr. Hoopes afterward sold 1,000 acres to the firm of Snell & Taylor, who had a part of the land platted, and sold town lots. In 1873 Mr. Hoopes purchased a house a short distance west of that which he now occupies, and moved into it, occupying it until 1882, when he erected his present residence. In connection with his dealings in real estate, he still continued the general supervision of his farm, but employed agents to carry on the work. In the fall of 1874 he started for the Pacific Slope, arriving in California October 28, and sojourned there until the 27th of March, 1875. In the meantime he traveled over a large portion of the country with his wife, the latter being in delicate health.

Mr. Hoopes cast his first vote in 1828 for a defeated candidate, being then identified with the old Whig party, but upon its abandonment cordially endorsed the principles of the Republican party, whom he has since for the most part given his support. In local affairs, however, he is not bound by party ties, but aims to support the man best qualified for office. During his long residence in this county, he has pursued that upright and honorable course which has gained him the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens, striving always to be not only just, but also generous, as he has had opportunity.

Mrs. Anna (Gray) Hoopes was born in Harrison County, Ohio, July 25, 1810, and was the daughter of Thomas and Hannah (Eckley) Gray, who spent their last years in Fulton County, Ill. To our subject and his estimable wife there were born no children. Mrs. Hoopes departed this life on the 29th of April, 1886, greatly mourned by her husband, and regretted by all who know her. She was a devoted wife, a lady possessing all the Christian virtues, and who was the uniform and efficient helper of her husband during his toils and struggles, and his cheerful, faithful companion amid the hardships and difficulties which they encountered. Her name is held in kindly remembrance by all who knew her.

Nathan Hoopes, the father of our subject, was born in Chester County, Pa., May 5, 1765, and was the son of Daniel A. Hoopes, a native of the same county. He lived there until reaching man's estate, and was married to Miss Elizabeth Gardner. Soon afterward they removed to Ohio, and settled in the woods of what was then Jefferson County, about seven miles from where the town of Mount Pleasant grew up. He put up a log cabin and began felling trees, and preparing a portion of the soil for cultivation. His first property consisted of only thirty acres, and at this little homestead occurred the birth of his son Thomas.

Later the father of our subject disposed of this property, and purchased 160 acres of land, where he opened up a good farm, and upon which he spent his last days, passing away in the spring of 1828. The household circle was completed by the birth of seven children, six of whom lived to years of maturity, namely: James and Joseph,

who were residents of Morgan County, Ohio, until their death; Sarah, Mrs. Nathan Williams, of Harrison County, Ohio; Thomas, our subject; Ann, the widow of George W. Scott, living in Camp Chase; and Mary, Mrs. W. Spurier, who died in Harrison County, whither she returned from Morgan County. The mother survived her husband only six years, her death taking place at the old homestead on May 12, 1834. She was a member and minister of the Society of Friends. Mr. Hoopes, our subject, is not a member of any society.

Mr. Hoopes owns large tracts of land, also buys any tract a young, but honest and industrious man may desire, lets him have it and pay a very low rate of interest, instead of rent, and avoids double taxation; thus helping many young men to start, simply for the purpose of doing what good he can. If he is proud of anything, it is of that, to be considered a philanthropist.

IRA G. JONES. Here and there, like a bright light on the hill top, we find a character which convinces us that the world is by no means all bad, and the subject of this notice may most properly be placed in this category. Not only is he the wealthiest farmer in Elwood Township, but its oldest living settler, and one who is known far and wide for his kindly character, and as looking upon the mistakes and wrong-doings of his fellow-men with charity. He had long been known as the poor man's friend—one never seeking popularity—but he has sought to help those who have tried to help themselves, and has set before his fellow-men an example worthy of their imitation. He is by occupation a farmer, and has for many years been engaged extensively in stock-raising. His large possessions are the accumulation of a lifetime of industry, good management, and the prudent economy which has been the rule of his life.

A native of Eastern Indiana, our subject was born near Liberty, fifteen miles from the present flourishing city of Richmond, Jan. 11, 1826. His father, Aaron Jones, long since deceased, was a native of New Jersey, and removed with his parents to Fayette County, Pa., when quite small. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The wife of Aaron Jones was Phebe Watkins, a native of Fayette County, Pa., who became the mother of eleven children, all of whom lived to mature years, and three survive, those beside our subject being William and Henry. The former occupies the old homestead near Quaker Point, just across the line in Indiana, and the latter lives in Fremont County, Minn.

Aaron Jones brought his family to this county in October, 1827, settling at Quaker Point, where he rented land two or three seasons. He then entered a tract from the Government about one mile east of Quaker Point in Vermilion Township, Vermillion Co., Ind. The first house the Jones family occupied was a double log cabin with a stick and clay chimney, a puncheon floor and the roof made of clapboards held down with knees and weight poles. Some of the pioneer bedsteads of that day consisted of poles fastened in the wall and resting on a fork in the middle of the floor. The nearest trading points were Newport and Eugene. "Father Jones," as he was familiarly called, was a very hospitable man, and entertained many a traveler under his humble roof. People came as far as eight miles to the Shaw and the Eugene mills, and sometimes would have to wait a week for their grinding. Many of them put up with the Jones family, and were never charged a cent. It was common to drink whisky in those days, and "Uncle Aaron" always had plenty of it in his house—the genuine article, made from his own grain. Notwithstanding this he was a temperate man himself, and never allowed liquor to get the better of him.

The early education of our subject was conducted in "Hazel Brush College," a log cabin erected in the same manner as the dwelling heretofore described. His boyhood and youth were spent in a similar manner to that of other sons of the pioneer farmer, during which time he assisted in tilling the soil, and upon approaching manhood began to lay his plans for the establishment of a home of his own. He was twenty-nine years old,

however, before securing unto himself a wife and helpmate, and was then married in July, 1855, to Miss Ruth Connor. This union resulted in the birth of seven children, four of whom are living —Emeline, George, Rozella and Seymour. One daughter, Indiana, was married to John Patton, and died, leaving five children—Jennie, Neal, May, George and Lucretia. Emeline married William Arrissmith, of Pilot Township, this county, and they have four children—Lilly, Ira, James and Bertha; George married Miss Annie Phillips, lives in Bethel, and is the father of one child, a son, Claude; Rozella married Charles Busby, of Elwood Township, and has two children. Mrs. Ruth (Connor) Jones departed this life at the homestead, Aug. 9, 1869.

Our subject contracted a second marriage, Nov. 24, 1871, with Mrs. Rhoda J. Rice. This lady was the widow of James M. Rice, and the daughter of James F. Weller, of Elwood Township. Of their marriage there have been born four children, all sons, Pearl, Frank, Bertie and Arthur. Mrs. Jones is a member of the New Light Christian Church. Our subject, politically, votes the Republican ticket, and has been quite prominent in local affairs, officiating as Road Overseer and Highway Commissioner, and is at present School Trustee and a member of the village Council. He is the owner of 1,600 acres of land, most of it in Elwood Township. His agricultural operations have been conducted with thoroughness and skill, and his home is one whose inmates are surrounded with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

JHENRY BANTA. Until within a few years back the subject of this notice was one of the leading business men of Elwood Township. He came to this county in 1853 settling near Pilot Grove where he carried on farming until 1869. He then came to the Ridge where he has since lived. He for some time owned and operated the Ridge Farm Flouring Mill and built the elevator here in 1871. He dealt in grain extensively and at the same time interested himself in the various enterprises calculated to build up the town. He is a man of excellent business capacities and strong qualities of character, one whose influence has been sensibly felt, both in the business and social circles of his community.

Our subject was born in Bourbon County, Ky., Aug. 14, 1831, and is the son of Abraham Banta, now deceased. The latter was born in Bourbon County, Ky., whence our subject removed to Nicholas County with his parents when quite young. They settled on a farm two and one-half miles west of Carlisle on the old Lexington and Maysville pike. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Dorcas Hedges. His paternal grandfather, Henry Banta, served as a soldier of the Revolutionary War. The parental household included eight children, five of whom are living, viz.: Scythia A., Mrs. Fulton; J. Henry, our subject; Margaret, Mrs. Campbell; William F. and Elizabeth, twins, the latter of whom also married a Mr. Campbell. The deceased were Andrew J., Sarah, Mrs. Collins and Annie M., Mrs. Bogard.

Young Banta commenced his education in a log cabin in Bourbon County, Ky. The temple of learning was a very primitive affair, with greased paper for window panes, split log seats, puncheon floor and clapboard roof held in place by weight poles. His childhood and youth passed in a comparatively uneventful manner until his marriage which occurred in April, 1852, his bride being Miss Mary J. Russell. This lady was born in St. Louis, Mo., and was the daughter of Andrew Russell, deceased. Of this union there were born eight children, namely: James A., Nancy E., William F., Sarah A., Margaret E., Annie D., Andrew J. and John H.

One of the leading characteristics of Mr. Banta is his steady opposition to the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks. While serving as Mayor of Ridge Farm in 1888–89, he vetoed the whisky license ordinance passed by the Council, and has left no stone unturned in using his influence to put down the liquor traffic. He has been a member of the Town Council several years which fact is sufficient indication of the estimation in which he is held by his fellow citizens. He is not

connected with any religious organization but socially is a charter member of Lodge No. 632 A. F. & A. M., at Ridge Farm. His estimable wife is a member in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Mr. Banta, with the exception of inflammatory rheumatism, is usually in good health and well preserved. In March, 1889, he took a trip to Hot Springs, Ark., and the treatment he received there was very beneficial.

The ancestors from whom our subject sprang were first represented in this country by one Epke Jacob Banta, a farmer from Harlingen, East Friesland, Holland, who with his wife and five sons, emigrated from Amsterdam in the ship "DeTrouw," which sailed Feb. 13, 1639 for the New World. The account of its passage and its voyagers may be found in the "Documental History of New York, volume 3, pages 52 and 53 and volume 14, page 90." Epke Jacob Banta was appointed one of the court of Oyer and Terminer at Bergen, now a part of Jersey City in 1679. See "Winfield's History of Woodford County, page 100."

In 1695 four of the five sons spoken of above—Seba, Cornelius, Hendrick, and Dirck, with six other persons, purchased from the proprietors of East Jersey a tract of land extending in breadth from the Hudson River to Overpeck (English neighborhood) Creek, and in length about two miles and a quarter from north to south. (See deed recorded at office of Secretary of State, Trenton, N. J.) The third son, Hendrick Epke Banta, married Mary Lubbertse Westervelt, at Bergen, Nov. 17, 1678, and there were born to them six children. He became a man prominent and well-to-do in his community and was elected a Deacon of the Reformed Dutch Church at Hackensack, N. J., at its organization in September, 1686.

Hendrick Banta, Jr., upon reaching manhood married Geertruy Terhuyne, Jan. 26, 1717, and they had four children, the eldest of whom was also named Hendrick. This latter and his wife, Rachel Brouwer, removed about the year 1753 to Somerset County, N. J., where he was an Elder in the Church at Millstone. Later he removed to the northern part of the county and was elected an Elder in the Church at Bedminster at its organization, Oct. 25, 1758. In 1768 he removed with a colony to Adams County, Pa., settling near the present site of Gettysburg and was a conspicuous member of the Church at Conewayo. Ten years later he became one of the pioneers of Madison County, Ky., settling near Boonesboro, but subsequently removed to Mercer County, and finally to Shelby County. In the latter he settled near Pleasureville on what was known as the Dutch Tract where he died in 1805.

Of this latter family there were born six children of whom the fourth, Abraham, the father of our subject, was born April 7, 1805. There was only one family of the name who came to America and their descendants have been people uniformly respectable and well-to-do. The subject of this sketch has inherited some of the peculiar traits of his ancestors and besides being totally averse to liquor in any shape, never had tobacco in his mouth and never smoked a cigar. He has done what he could to advance those principles in which he conscientiously believes, and his record has been that of an honest man and a praiseworthy citizen.

WILLIAM BARCLAY HAWORTH, late of Vermillion County, Ind., departed this life near Ridge Farm, Ill., Oct. 12, 1867. His widow, Mrs. Irene Haworth, retains possession of the property left her by her husband, and is a lady held in high esteem in her community. She was born in Wayne County, Ind., Dec. 12, 1827, and is the daughter of Seth Mill, deceased, who was a native of Ohio, and who came to this county with his family in 1828. They settled on what is now known as the Thomas Brown place, where they lived seven years, then removed to the Aaron Glick farm, two miles east of Vermilion Grove, where the father died Aug. 19, 1846.

On the 10th of August, 1845, Miss Mills was to married William B. Haworth, and they at once settled across the line at Quaker Point, in Vermillion County, Ind., where Mrs. Haworth lived until 1875. She then removed to Vermilion Grove, her present home. Of the thirteen children born to her and her husband, nine lived to mature years, and

Anna Douglass

D. B. Douglass.

eight are still living, viz: Maria, Susan, Henry M., Zimri L., Mary E., Sarah, Laura M., and Eva J. One son, Seth, married Miss Martha J. Rees, and is now deceased. Of the two children born to them only one is living, Anna L; Maria married Amos Cook, of Yankee Point; Susan is the wife of Thomas L. Commons, of Wichita, Kan., and has has five children—Arthur N., Adella, Walter, Pearl, and Oren. Henry married Laura Hendricks, and lives at Quaker Point, Ind.; they have five children—Kenneth E., Maria, Alice, George and Myrtle; Zimri married Miss Sybil Rees, lives in Elwood Township, and has two children—Mary and Albert C; Mary married Ezra Cook, of Yankee Point, and lives in Elwood Township; they have five children—Bertha, Nora, Flora, Seth and Ethel. Sarah married Josiah Marsh, of Frankfort, Ind., and they have one child, Charlie; Laura married Newton Morris, of Elwood Township, and they have two children—Orpha D. and Barclay D.; Eva married Levi Saunders, of Elwood Township, and they have three children—Octavia, Elton and Estella.

Mr. Haworth was a member of the Society of Friends, to which Mrs. Haworth and her family also belong. The mother of Mrs. Haworth was in her girlhood Rebecca Canaday, a native of Jefferson County, East Tenn., and born June 23, 1806. The parental family included five children: Irena, Henry, Aaron, Lucinda B. (deceased) and Annie M. The mother died June 18, 1888, in Elwood Township, Vermilion Co., Ill. She was a life-long member of the Society of Friends.

DORMAN B. DOUGLASS stands in the front rank of the enlightened, enterprising agriculturists, who are active in supporting the immense farming and stock-raising interests of Vermilion County. He owns one of the largest and finest improved farms in all Catlin Township, beautifully located on section 2, where he has a very pretty home, rendered still more attractive by the number of shade and fruit trees with which he has adorned the grounds.

Our subject comes of worthy New England ancestry on the father's side, and of good Pennsylvania stock on the maternal side of the house. His father, Cyrus Douglass, was born in Vermont, and his mother was a native of Tioga County, Pa. They were married about three miles north of Danville, in this county, and settled soon after about three miles and a half south of that city, where they lived for a long term of years, being very early pioneers of that township. In 1865, they retired to Fairmount to spent their last years free from the cares and labors that had beset their early life, whereby they had won a competence. She did not long survive the removal from her old home, where her married life had passed so pleasantly and peacefully, but Dec. 15, 1866, closed her eyes to the scenes of earth. The father lived fourteen years longer, and then, Dec. 20, 1880, he was summoned to the life beyond the grave. He had served under Capt. Morgan L. Payne in the Indian War of 1831-2. He and his wife were the parents of thirteen children, nine sons and four daughters, all of whom lived to grow up, with the exception of one son, who was injured and died when about nine years old.

Our subject was the second child of the family in order of birth, and was born in Danville Township, Oct. 11, 1827. He was reared to man's estate in the place of his nativity in the pioneer home of his birth. He gleaned his education in the primitive schools of the early days, was bred to a farmer's life on the old homestead, and has always given his attention to agricultural pursuits. He remained under the parental roof till 1851, and then, buoyed with the hopes and ambitions of an energetic young manhood, he took his departure from the scenes of his boyhood and youth, and crossed the continent to Oregon to see something of the world and to better his prospects in life, if he could. He stayed in Oregon but a short time, and then made his way to California, where he remained some time engaged in mining. In October, 1853, he gathered together his gains, having a great desire to see his old home once more after experiencing the rough life of a miner for two years, and embarked on a vessel that took him by the Nicaragua route, and thence made his way by New York City to Illinois and Vermilion County. On his return he resumed

farming, and followed that peaceful vocation some years. But life in the wild West still held a fascination for him, and in the summer of 1864 he made another trip toward the setting sun, journeying across the plains to Idaho and Montana. That time he was gone from here about two and a half years, and was variously employed as a miner and at different occupations. Since his second return from the far West Mr. Douglass has been engaged continuously in farming, and has met with more than ordinary success in that pursuit. He owns 410 acres of as choice land as is to be found in this part of Vermilion County, has it under perfect cultivation, has erected good buildings, including a substantial, well-appointed residence, and made other valuable improvements.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Anna Downing, a noble, true-hearted woman, who has devoted her life to the interests of her husband and children, took place in Danville Township, their union being solemnized in the month of September, 1855. Mrs. Douglass is the daughter of Ellis and Louisa (Hathaway) Downing, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky, and now deceased. Her parents began their married life in Kentucky, and from there went later in life to Indiana, and were pioneers of Logansport, where he died. The mother afterward came to Catlin Township, and made her home here till death. Four children were born of her marriage, two sons and two daughters, Mrs. Douglass being the eldest of the family. She was born near Washington, in Mason County, Ky., Dec. 25, 1825. She is the mother of five children, as follows: Samuel; Eliza, the wife of George W. Cook; Allen who married Maggie Byerley; Belle B., the wife of Charles Lucas; and George W.

Mr. Douglas is a man whose frank geniality, tact and readiness to oblige, have won him many fast friends, and with his wife, who is of an amiable, charitable disposition, he stands high in the social circles of this community. He is a man of wide and varied experience and information, a good conversationalist, and is accordingly a pleasing companion. He is a good financier, and also an able manager, having his affairs under good control; he possesses in a large degree those characteristics without which success in life is unattainable. He has mingled somewhat in the public life of the township, has proved an efficient school officer, and has held some of the minor offices with credit to himself, and to the benefit of the community. He is an esteemed member of Catlin Lodge, No. 285, A. F. & A. M. He is a loyal and faithful citizen, having the best interests of his country at heart, and is in his politics a pronounced Democrat of the Jacksonian type.

Elsewhere in this volume the reader will notice a portrait of Mr. Douglass, and beside it is fittingly placed that of his wife, who has been at his side a faithful companion for more than thirty years.

AMOS COOK, a representative farmer of Elwood Township, is a hardworking, typical Quaker. He is a native of Elwood Township, and was born Dec. 15, 1845. His father, Daniel Cook, was one of the early settlers of Vermilion County, and a man whose reputation for everything that constitutes a model man, was of the very best. The mother was Hannah Hester, a daughter of Thomas Hester, also a pioneer of Eastern Illinois. The elder Mr. and Mrs. Cook had four children, three of whom are living: Amos, Ezra and Daniel, all born in Elwood Township. Daniel was born on Feb. 27th, 1855. He married Electa Powell. They have one child, Alice, and are living on section 10 of Elwood Township. Mary died after she had married and become the mother of two children.

Mr. Cook enjoyed but limited advantages for securing an education, as the common schools of his boyhood had not attained to the perfection of the public schools of the present day. He improved well, however, his opportunities, and regrets that he could not have secured better educational privileges. On Nov. 3d, 1869, Mr. Cook was married to Maria, daughter of Bartley Haworth (deceased). They have no children. The brother of the subject of this sketch, Ezra Cook, of Vermilion Grove, was born in October, 1848, in Elwood Township. He received a common-school

education and has always worked on a farm. He owns seventy acres of land, where he carries on a general farming and stock-raising business. He has been very prosperous and has accumulated a competence. He was married in September, 1875, to Mary E. Haworth. They are the parents of six children, five of whom are living: Bertha L., Nora A., Flora B., Seth H., and Ethel M. His wife was born in Edgar County, Ill., and reared in Vermillion County, Ind. Ezra never has sought office, and politically, he belongs to the Prohibition party. He and his wife are leading members of the Society of Friends, as were also their parents.

Amos Cook owns ninety-two acres of land, most of which is under a perfect state of cultivation. He prosecutes a general farming and stock-raising business. The stock on his farm is of the very best blood, and he spares no pains to obtain the best, among which may be mentioned graded Belgian horses, Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs. Mr. Cook is considered by his neighbors a model farmer, and a survey of his farm will corroborate that estimate. He is thorough in all his work, and leaves nothing undone that should be done, and everything connected with his place seems to be in perfect order.

Mr. and Mrs. Cook are members of the Friends' Church, where they regularly attend divine worship, and of which they are birth-right members. Mr. Cook has never held any office, nor does he want one, but he votes and works for the Prohibition party as a matter of duty and principle. He has never lived outside of Elwood Township.

GEORGE W. CANADAY. Among the steady-going men of Carroll Township none are more responsible and hard-working than he with whose name we introduce this sketch. He pursues the even tenor of his way quietly and unostentatiously, and is a fine representative of that responsible and reliable element which is so essential to the well-being of every community. He is the owner of two medium sized farms, has a good home and a pleasant family, including a group of children which he and his excellent wife may be pardoned for looking upon with much pride.

The son of a pioneer, our subject was born in Georgetown Township near Concord, Nov. 18, 1842, being the youngest of three children, the offspring of Boater and Ellen (Weidener) Canaday, who were married in Ohio, and came to this county about 1835. They settled in Georgetown Township, where they spent the remainder of their days. The father, however, only lived until 1845, leaving his widow with three children—William R., Sarah J., and George W., our subject. She was married the second time and became the mother of six more children.

Mr. Canaday spent his boyhood and youth amid the quiet scenes of rural life, learning to plow, sow and reap. He says, "I have been plowboy thirty-eight years." He attended the schools at Concord, and grew up to a healthful and vigorous manhood, with stout muscles and feeling fully equal to the demands of the future. When twenty-five years old he was married, in 1867, to Miss Mary Jane, daughter of George W. Smith, who is now living three miles south of Georgetown. The young people commenced the journey of life together in Elwood Township, and from that time on have worked with a mutual purpose to make for themselves a home and leave a good record to their children. In the fall of that year, thinking he would do better beyond the Mississippi, Mr. Canaday went into Worth County, Mo., and purchased a farm of 100 acres, driving to it in a wagon. For seven years thereafter he prosecuted farming on that land, performing a great deal of hard labor with encouraging results.

Mrs. Canaday finally became homesick, and the family, including three children, in 1874, returned to this county, making the journey overland in a wagon. Mr. Canaday purchased a small tract of land—seventy-two acres—near Ridge Farm, which he still owns, and in 1881 purchased the 120-acre farm in Carroll Township, which he now occupies, and to which he gives his principal attention. Their three eldest children, Emma E., Florence and Cora, were born in Missouri. Ollie and Frank are natives of Illinois. Our subject and his estimable wife belong to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church

at Concord, and Mr. Canaday, politically, votes the straight Democratic ticket. He has served as School Director in his district, and believes in the education of the young as the best means of insuring good citizenship.

Mrs. Canaday was born in Georgetown Township Sept. 24, 1845, and is the only child of her father by his first wife, who in her girlhood was Mary Jane Smith. After the death of his first wife Mr. Smith was married a second time, and became the father of seven more children, five living and two dead.

FRANK A. BAUM, one of the most popular men of Carroll Township, was born and reared within its precincts, and is the offspring of an old and well-known family, the son of Samuel Baum, whose great-grandfather was born in Poland, from which he fled during the troubles of that unhappy country, and for some time afterward made his home in Germany. Later he came to America, prior to the Revolutionary War, and married an English lady by the name of Barbara McDonald, a relative of the daring and gallant young McDonald, fighting under Gen. Marion in that war. The senior Baum was later appointed on the reserve corps for special duty and the protection of the early settlements. After the close of the war he settled in Bucks County, Pa., where the nine children of the family were reared, among whom was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Charles Baum, Sr.

The year following Wayne's treaty with the Indians Charles Baum and his family sailed down the Ohio River to the mouth of Bullsink Creek, near where the town of Chilo now stands. Here they commenced the first settlement made in the Territory of Ohio. Grandfather Charles Baum upon reaching manhood married Miss Susan Moier, of Germantown, Ky. They became the parents of ten children, viz: Samuel, John, M. D.; Mary, Mrs. Weaver; Sarah, Mrs. Van Treese; Charles; Catherine, Mrs. Patterson; Susan, Mrs. Sandusky; Elizabeth, Gideon N.; and Eliza, Mrs. Carter.

Samuel Baum was the eldest son of his parents (who came to this county with their children in 1839), and while a resident of Ohio, was married to a daughter of old Michael Weaver. The latter came to this county in 1827, and settled one miles northeast of the present site of Indianola. There were then but five log houses on the Little Vermilion, two of which were purchased by a Baum and a Weaver. The latter gentleman lived to be one hundred years old, the oldest man on record in Carroll Township. He was the father of seven children, of whom Sarah, the wife of Samuel Baum, was the eldest. She was a native of Ohio, and after her marriage became the mother of two children there, Elizabeth and Oliver P. After their removal to Illinois there were born six more children—Susan, Catherine, Charles M., Samuel, William and Angeline. The first wife died, and Samuel Baum married a second time to Mrs. Polly Matkins, widow of William Matkins, by whom she became the mother of two children—Theodore and Mary. Of her marriage with Mr. Baum there were born four children: Frank, the subject of this sketch; America, Winchester C. and May. Grandfather Baum was perhaps as generous a man as ever set foot in Carroll Township. He possessed the character and attributes of a true Christian, and was one of the pillars of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Uncle Sam Baum, as he was familiarly termed, was a large, powerful man, six feet one inch in height, and weighing 300 pounds. He was born in Ohio, and reared amid the wild scenes of pioneer life, growing up good-tempered and jovial, and following farming pursuits. He took the first produce which he raised in Carroll Township to Chicago, driving five yoke of oxen. His sole earthly possessions upon coming to this county were a horse, bridle and saddle, and at the time of his death, in March, 1861, he was the owner of 1,500 acres of good land, besides personal property. During the latter years of his life he belonged to the Republican party, and died at the age of fifty-six years.

The mother of our subject came to Illinois with her father in 1831, he settling three miles east of Indianola. She was then but thirteen years old. After a time they moved to Louisville, Ky., where they sojourned three years, then returned to this

county, and the mother died about 1883 at the age of sixty-two years. She was a woman of many excellent qualities. and in religion a Presbyterian.

The subject of this sketch was born Nov. 15, 1851, in Carroll Township, where he was reared on a farm, and at an early age became familiar with agricultural pursuits and stock-raising. He was bright and courageous, and at an early age assumed unusual responsibilities for a boy, which had the effect of making him self-reliant and little inclined to ask favors of anyone. His father died when he was a lad of eleven years, but prior to this Frank had been engaged helping his father in purchasing cattle two or three years. With the demise of the head of the family the household circle was broken up, but Frank remained with his mother on the Baum homestead until two years after his marriage. The above mentioned event in the life of our subject was celebrated Nov. 18, 1873, the bride being Miss Eliza, daughter of Dr. McHaffie, one of the earliest physicians in Carroll Township. Mrs. Baum was born in Indianola, and was a child at school with her husband. In 1875 they moved on to the part of the father's estate which fell to our subject, and to which the latter subsequently added by the purchase of land. There were born to them five children: Harry, Joseph, Beratice; Samuel, who when sixteen months old; and Benjamin F.

Mr. Baum has given his attention largely to the live-stock business, and has fed all the cattle his farm could sustain. He has never sold any other grain besides wheat. He shipped his cattle to New York, Buffalo, and Chicago, and began operations in this business when a youth of seventeen years. He has made two trips to the Far West, and is a man who keeps his eyes open to what is going on around him, embracing every opportunity for useful information. He is at present interested in the breeding of Clydesdale horses, and is a life member of the Scotch and American Clydesdale Associations. He has also bred Short-horn cattle considerably. His son, Harry, a bright boy of fourteen, is said to be the best posted youth in the county in connection with this industry. When thirteen years old he passed a successful examination for a teacher's certificate, and in 1888 was again examined and ranked the highest of any applicant. Mr. Baum thoroughly believes in education, and has given to his children the best advantages in his power.

The farm of our subject embraces 160 acres of land, well improved and very fertile. Mr. Baum put in the first tile ever laid in Carroll Township, of which he has five miles on 120 acres. Being thrown upon his own resources early in life, he has had a stern battle with the world, and is of that independent and outspoken disposition which might, with one unacquainted with him, seem abrupt, but at heart he is genuine gold, with sympathy for the unfortunate, and a fine appreciation of those sentiments of honor, which is the leading characteristic of every true man. He is one who naturally espouses the cause of the persecuted and down-fallen, and has more than once wrested a friend from trouble and disaster.

Politically, Mr. Baum is a decided Republican, and has very clear ideas in regard to the protective system of that party. When assailed upon this point he is always enabled to cause the most hot-headed Democratic free-traders to stop and think. He has been for some time Township Trustee, and is Clerk of the Board of School Directors of Indianola. He was remarkably fortunate in the selection of a wife and helpmate, Mrs. Baum being a very estimable and intelligent lady, one who has greatly assisted her husband in his labors and struggles, and very nearly approaches the ideal of the self-denying and devoted wife and mother. Although not wealthy, they have accumulated sufficient to shield them from want in their old age, and, what is better, they enjoy the esteem and confidence of hosts of friends.

WILLIAM BROWN has been eminently successful as a farmer and a citizen. He resides on section 32, Elwood Township, where he owns a good farm. He was born in Butler County, Ohio, on Jan. 4, 1813, and in his time has seen a great many changes in the affairs of this country, by which he has profited.

His father, Samuel Brown, was born on the "beautiful Juniata" River in Mifflin County, Pa.

His wife, whose maiden name was Polly Hearn, is also a native of Pennsylvania, but was reared to womanhood in Kentucky. She and her husband reared ten children, five of whom are living: William; Mar-Margaret, Mrs. Ross; C. Perry, Mary, Mrs. A. Shurk; and Sidney, Mrs. Tenbrook. William came with his parents to Parke County, Ind., in 1824, where they settled in a country that was in a wild state. Game of every kind, and especially wild turkeys, was abundant. They were not obliged to go hunting for turkeys, but could sit in their doors and shoot them as they passed. The early settlers of that county for the first few years of their residence there were providentially supplied with the best of meat by reason of the plentitude of wild game. The Brown family built their first house of round logs, and in its construction not a sawed board was used. The roof was constructed of clapboards which were split out of straight-grained timber. The doors had wooden latches and hinges, and no nails were used in building them, wooden pegs taking their place. The bedsteads were made by boring holes in the wall and inserting therein poles. The windows were constructed by cutting a hole in the side of the cabin and using greased paper in the place of glass. All the hardships that could be imagined they underwent, and at one time the water was so high in that country that the mills were obliged to stop grinding, and in most instances the dams were washed away, and in consequence the Brown family for a month and a half were destitute of flour or meal, and the whole section of country was obliged to use boiled corn instead. This was in the latter part of the winter of 1825–'26. The river at Montezuma inundated the valley and covered the towpath of the old canal. William was present in Montezuma and heard Gen. Howard make his last speech just prior to his embarking on a steamboat on his journey as Minister to Texas.

William Brown came to Vermilion county in March, 1856, where he has since lived. In August, 1848, he married Lizzie, daughter of Salmon Lusk. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the parents of eight children, six of whom are living: Salmon H., Commodore P., John L., William C., Edgar D., and Benjamin F. Salmon married Alice Coe, and is living in Ridge Farm. They have one child, Herbert. Commodore married Ella Campbell. They are living in this township and have one child. Mr. Brown owns 700 acres of land in Edgar and Vermilion counties, and 320 acres in Lyon County, Kansas, independent of which he has given to his children an aggregate of 1280 acres. He is engaged largely in raising graded Short-horn cattle and Clydesdale horses, and as a stock-raiser he has prospered.

Mr. Brown is devoted to home and cares little for popular applause. His wealth has been gained mainly by sticking to the motto of minding his own business, and this has been the key-note of his success. He never seeks office, leaving that to others. In his day he has done a great deal of hard work, and knows all about chopping wood, hauling logs, etc. He has the old gun that his uncle carried during the war of 1812, which has been the cause of the death of more than one Indian, and has slaughtered tons of wild game. His father disliked an Indian, as the redskins killed the most of his relatives. William's brother, Perry Brown, still lives in Parke County, Indiana, where he is one of the wealthiest real estate owners in that part of the country.

MARTIN HAYWARD is one of the well-educated farmers of Vermilion County. He owns a most excellent farm on section 20 of Elwood Township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He believes in the principle of getting the best, acting intelligently, and using energy, and by this sign he has conquered.

Mr. Hayward was born in Clarke County, Ohio, May 5, 1836. His father, Charles Hayward, of Warren County, Ind., is a native of Baltimore, Md., being born there April 17, 1811. He is a man of iron constitution, and as active as many men are at forty. He has worked for many years alternately as carpenter and joiner and farmer, and is now enjoying the reward of his labors in earlier years. He settled on wild land in Warren County, Ind., in 1840, the year Gen. Harrison was elected Presi-

dent. Martin well remembers the enthusiasm that was coupled with that campaign. He saw one cabin drawn by twenty yoke of oxen, also Buckeye log cabins with coon skins, live coons, and hard cider in abundance.

Mr. Hayward received his learning primarily at the common schools, afterward attending Oberlin College, and the Farmers' Institute at Lafayette, Ind. He taught school for six winters in all, three terms of which were in that county and of six months each, beginning in the falls of 1858–59–62. He also taught two winters in Warren County, Ind., in the township where he was reared. He was very successful as an instructor and disciplinarian. Since he abandoned the profession of teacher he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Hayward's mother was Emily E. Vickers, a native of Clarke County, Ohio. She was the mother of four children, three of whom are living: Martin; Celia K., Mrs. Kirkpatrick; Ruth, Mrs. Roming. The youngest boy, James W., was a soldier in the Union Army, in the 2d New York Cavalry, or, as it was otherwise known, the "Ira Harris Light Cavalry." He was a bugler and served from the fall of 1861 until the spring of 1864, when he was taken prisoner on the Rappahannock, and placed by the rebels on Belle Isle. This island was situated in the river nearly opposite Richmond, and was destitute of any conveniences whatever to protect its defenseless inhabitants from the elements. Here he contracted a cold, from the effects of which he died in the summer of 1865, at the old homestead in Indiana, and so passed away another victim of the barbarities incident to the late Civil War.

On the 13th day of February, 1860, Mr. Hayward married Marietta Hollingsworth, whose father, John, is a resident of Tippecanoe County, Ind. She is the mother of four children—Lillian, John H., Charles S. and William C. Lillian married John Baird, of Carroll Township, and has two children—Helen and Bernice. Mr. Hayward came to Iroquois County, Ill., in 1864, removing in 1872 to this county, locating on his present farm. He owns 180 acres of land, and is doing a general farm and stock-raising business. He is a thorough farmer and does nothing by halves.

With the exception of the eldest son, the family of Mr. Hayward belong to the Friends' Church. The son referred to was born before Mr. Hayward embraced the doctrines of the Quakers. Mr. Hayward is a stanch Republican, and is a firm believer in all its platforms. In all Vermilion County there is not a man who has a better record, or finer reputation as a man, than Martin Hayward.

JOHN FLETCHER is one of the solid, substantial and trustworthy residents of Elwood Township. He was born in Clinton County, Ohio, on May 20, 1815. His father, Henry, was a native of England, and a son of John Fletcher, who in turn was a son of Henry Fletcher. The latter was a wealthy officer in the English army and educated his son John—the grandfather of the subject of this sketch—for the army, but he joined the Quaker Church, and was driven by his father to Ireland, where he was given sixty acres of land in that country. His son, Henry Fletcher, father of our subject, was obliged to leave Ireland or join the army, but being a Quaker, he refused to become a soldier and came to America, locating in Philadelphia. This was in 1793. He was on the ocean eleven weeks and four days where they drifted about, the ship being in charge of a drunken captain and mate. The people on board the boat were reduced to a gill of water a day and to a very small amount of food. But they finally reached land in safety.

The father of the subject of this sketch, after landing, lived three years in Philadelphia, and in 1796 he emigrated to the Sciota Valley, Ohio, where he worked on a farm for one season, returning to Pennsylvania and there remaining until 1804, when he went to Warren County, Ohio, and dug a mill race on Cæsar Creek. He bought 200 acres of military land in Clinton County, Ohio, and then retraced his steps to Pennsylvania, remaining there until 1806, when he returned to Ohio and improved his land. The Indians were numerous but peaceable, in the main.

In 1806 the father of the one of whom we write this sketch, married Mrs. Sarah (Duncan) Taylor.

They had four children of whom John is the youngest, and only one living. The others were: Mary, Hannah and Sarah. The sisters all lived to be over seventy years of age. John Fletcher came with his parents to this county in the fall of 1836, settling on the old homestead, where he now lives. He was married in October, 1835 to Rachael Ruth. They had seven children, six of whom are living: Sarah J., Henry, Mary A., John W., Amanda and James. One son, William, died in his twenty-third year. Mrs. Fletcher died Oct. 5, 1862 and her husband was again married on Nov. 1st, 1866 to Mrs. Lydia Haworth, widow of Eli Haworth, and daughter of Garrett Dillon, the latter a pioneer of Elwood Township, and a native of Greene County, Tenn.

Mrs. Fletcher was born Dec. 5, 1815 and was the mother of nine children by her marriage with Mr. Haworth. Six of these are living: Samuel, Julia, Mahala, Mary, William P., and Charles F. Her grandfather, Peter Dillon, removed from North Carolina to Greene County, Tenn., during the Revolutionary War, and was a prominent citizen in both States. The grandfather of Mr. Fletcher on his mother's side, Samuel Duncan, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and participated in the battle of the Cowpens and others. He had holes shot in his clothes and buttons taken off by bullets, but was not wounded. He was known as the "fighting Quaker," and he sustained his reputation well. He was a teamster, and the Tories captured three of his horses, when he mounted the remaining one, and joined the American forces, afterward recapturing one of his horses.

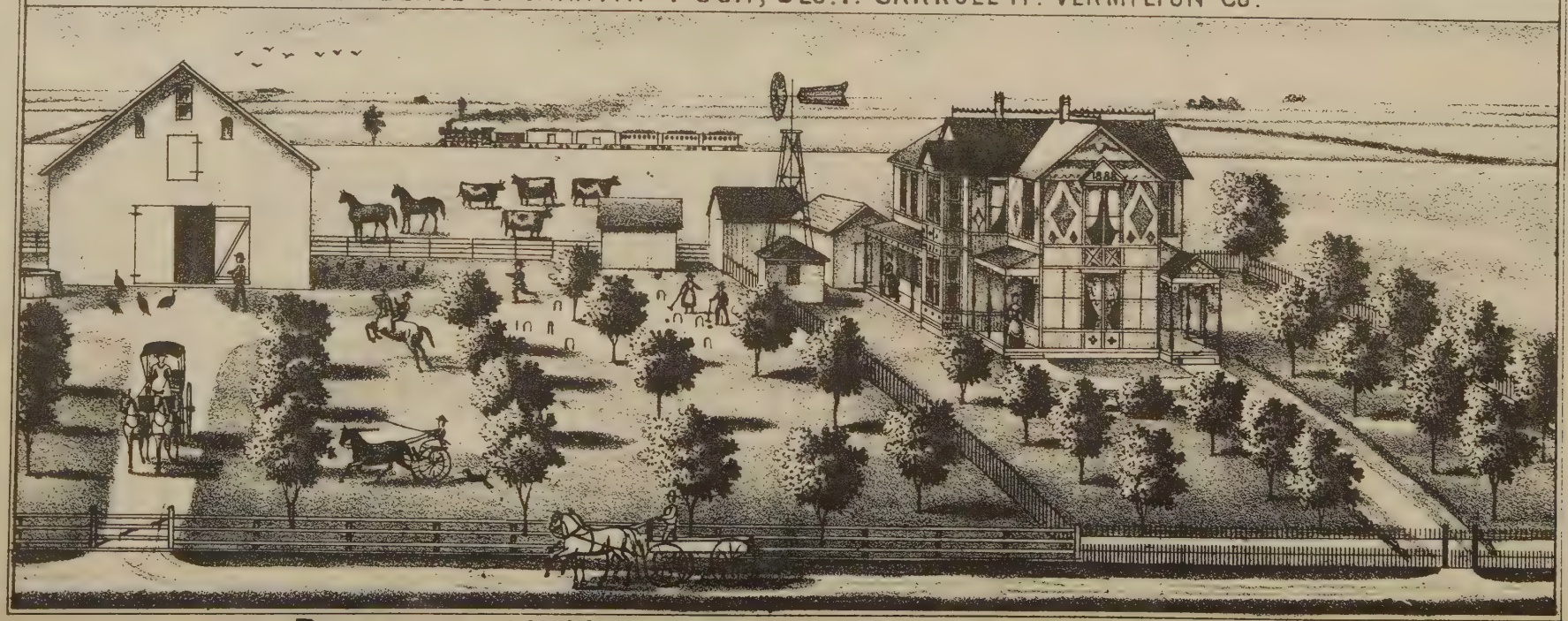
Mr. Fletcher has held the office of School Trustee for twenty-eight years, and has served on the juries a great many times. He has also filled the positions of Highway Commissioner and School Director but has never sought office. He was the treasurer of the fund which was raised to procure substitutes for those drafted during the late war. He was very patriotic during the Rebellion and had he not been so old, would have joined the army. A record of his children's families is as follows: Sarah J., married John Armstrong, of Noblesville, Ind., and they have one child, May. Henry married Mahala Haworth; they are living in Elwood Township with six children, John, Albert, Marcus M., William, Lydia and Ola; Mary married Larkins Lewis of Carthage, Mo., and they have two children, Laura and Rachael; John married Martha Price; they live in Cherokee, Kan., and have eight children, Mary, Minnie, Amanda, Oliver, Lennie, Grace, William and Irene; Amanda married Lemuel V. Cupp, of Carthage, Mo., and they have five children as follows: Ora, Maud, Carl, Ethel, Pearl; James married Martha E. Ankrum. He lives with his father with two children, Robert A. and Allie.

Mr. Fletcher has always been a strong anti-slavery man having voted for William Henry Harrison in 1836 and again in 1840. His Republicanism began with the date of the birth of that party and he never has omitted an opportunity to forward its interests. He had the great pleasure of voting in 1888 for Benjamin Harrison. Mr. Fletcher began life poor, but is now wealthy, living in ease and comfort which no one begrudges him and his estimable wife. He is a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and well beloved by all his neighbors.

ANDREW J. DARNALL, one of the leading merchants of Indianola and Ridge Farm, is an extensive dealer in drygoods, boots and shoes, clothing, hats and caps, and, in fact, everything that is kept in a well-regulated general store. He resides at Ridge Farm, but carries on his extensive store in Indianola, doing a very large business in both places, and by his methods of dealing he has gained the respect and confidence of all his patrons and neighbors.

Mr. Darnall was born in Edgar County, Ill., on the 8th of November, 1833. His father and mother, Aaron and Mary (Doke) Darnall, came from Kentucky at an early day. They were married at Catfish Point. The mother died when Andrew was seven years old, leaving three children —Daniel, Andrew J. and Thomas, the latter dying while in infancy. Daniel is a brick manufacturer at Petersburg, Ill. The subject of this sketch attended the common schools in his boyhood, and

RESIDENCE OF MARTIN PUGH, SEC. 1. CARROLL TP. VERMILION CO.



RESIDENCE OF J. W. MILLER, SEC. 28. SIDELL TOWNSHIP, VERMILION CO.

worked on his father's farm. When he attained his majority, he engaged with William Bailey for three years and a half as clerk, at Bloomfield, Ill. His first wages were $12.50 per month. In company with William Smick, he bought his employer's entire stock, and continued the business under the firm name of Smick & Darnall, when, in June, 1863, Mr. Darnall sold out his interest in the business and went to Ridge Farm, and there, under the firm name of A. J. Darnall & Co., operated a general store, dealing in all kinds of merchandise. After awhile he bought out his partner and ran the business alone, finally selling out entirely in 1884, but after some time he formed another co-partnership, styled Darnall & Hustead. He came to Indianola in the fall of 1885, locating here and inaugurating his present successful business.

Mr. and Mrs. Darnall are the parents of two boys and one girl—Harley, Manfred and Minnie. Mrs. Darnall is a member of the Baptist Church, and one of the leading members of the society. The Democratic party finds in the subject of this sketch an ardent supporter, and one who never flags in his devotion to its principles. He has never sought office, finding in his own business plenty to do, but always takes great care in his choice of candidates, generally voting for the man whom he believes to be the best fitted to fill the position to which he aspired. He is eminently a No. 1 business man, and, commencing with nothing, he has ascended the scale of prosperity until he now finds himself in the proud position of independence. In all that the words imply, he is a self-made man, and, as such is regarded by all his acquaintances. His neighbors are always ready and willing to vouch for him as an upright, conscientious and able citizen.

MARTIN PUGH. Among the self-made and successful men of Carroll Township probably none have distinguished themselves in a more marked degree for industry and perseverance than the subject of this notice. He occupies a most attractive rural homestead, embellished with an elegant brick residence, which with its surroundings indicates the existence of cultivated tastes and ample means. A finely executed view of his home appears in this volume and will attract the admiring attention of the many readers. His family at home consists of five very bright and intelligent daughters, and he has another daughter who is married and a resident of Sidell Township. The family met with a deep affliction in the loss of the beloved wife and mother, who departed this life Sept. 7, 1887, at the age of fifty-three years. She was lady possessing all the womanly virtues, wholly devoted to her family, a faithful wife and mother and one who was held in the highest esteem by the entire community.

A native of Marion County, Ind., our subject was born five miles northwest of Indianapolis, March 2, 1831, and was reared to manhood in the suburbs of the capital city. He began working on the farm when a boy of eleven or twelve, holding the plow when he could scarcely reach the handles. His early education was conducted in the subscription schools of his native county, and his life passed in a comparatively uneventful manner amid the quiet scenes of rural life until he obtained his majority. Then starting out for himself he worked for $13 per month on a farm about three months, then began operations for himself on rented land lying six or seven miles northwest of Indianapolis. He was fairly successful in his new venture, and in 1859 was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Baum, daughter of Samuel Baum, one of the well-known pioneers of this county. The young people began the journey of life together in Carroll Township, and in 1859 took up their abode at the present home of our subject. Here he has effected fine improvements, putting up the dwelling in 1881 and adding from time to time the other buildings necessary for the prosecution of agriculture and stock-raising after the most approved methods.

The seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Pugh were named respectively, Elizabeth J., Charles (who died when one year old), Wilmetta, Maude, Winnie, Lulu and Helen; Elizabeth became the wife of Mr. Thomas Howard, and they live at the homestead; Wilmetta married Mr. Gust Rowand, one of the leading horse-breeders of Sidell Township, and they have one child, Dale; Maude, Winnie,

Lulu and Helen are at home with their father. Mr. Pugh identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Indianola in 1881, and since the death of his wife, for whom he sorrows with more than ordinary grief, has been especially faithful upon his attendance upon his religious duties. He has very little to do with public affairs, but keeps himself posted upon current events and uniformly votes the straight Republican ticket. He has performed jury service at different times and for eight or ten years has been a member of the School Board of his district.

The parents of our subject were Enoch and Charlotte (Martindale) Pugh, the father a native of North Carolina and born a short distance from the city of Raleigh. The paternal grandfather, Jacob Pugh, was also a native of North Carolina, and the great-grandfather was born in Scotland. The latter upon leaving his native soil went into England, where he sojourned for a time, then emigrated to America, settling in North Carolina about the time of the Revolutionary War. His sympathies were decidedly in favor of the Colonists, and he met his death in a fray between the tories and patriots, he fighting with the latter.

The father of Martin Pugh left his native State with his parents early in life to make his home in the woods of Marion County, Ind., when few people had migrated to that region, and when Indians and wild animals were plentiful. In due time he became owner of 160 acres of land, which he lived upon and cultivated until his death in 1860, when about fifty years of age. His wife, the mother of our subject, was born in South Carolina and emigrated with her parents to Marion County, Ind., when a young girl. She died at the early age of thirty-five years, leaving seven children, namely: Martin our subject, Dorcas A., Jacob, Alexander, Jane, Thomas Jefferson and Clarinda.

Mr. Pugh was married a second time, to Miss Susan Smith, and to them there were born four children, who lived to mature years: Charlotte, Joel, John and Mary. Martin, our subject, first opened his eyes to the light, March 2, 1831, and is consequently past fifty-eight years of age. His praiseworthy manner of living and his correct habits have been the means of preserving his faculties in an admirable manner, physically and mentally. In 1887 he identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Indianola and is one of its most efficient workers. Self-made in the best sense of the word, he has made for himself a worthy record and feels indebted to no man for his position socially and financially. As one of the representative men of this county he stands second to none in point of sterling integrity and those qualities which go to make up the responsible citizen and useful member of the community.

JOHN WILLIAM MILLER is a prominent figure in church circles in Vermilion County. His handsomely located and commodious country seat is situated one-half mile south of Sidell, on a farm which comprises 152 acres. He also leases a farm of 160 acres. He has been identified with this community as a dealer and shipper of horses and mules for a long time. His operations have been mainly in the southern portion of Vermilion County, but he occasionally extends his field of operation into Edgar and Champaign counties, where he has formed a large acquaintance and made many friends.

Mr. Miller was born in Warren County, Ind., near West Point, April 13, 1848. His father, Abraham Miller, was a native of Kentucky, of German extraction, and a farmer by occupation, but through misfortune lost his farm. He was married in his native State, and became the father of four children. His second union was with Miss Mary Biggs, who was born near Darlington, Ind. The second wife died soon after coming to Indiana, after becoming the mother of three children—Celecta, wife of Joseph Cuppy, a butcher of Bloomington, Ill.; John William, and Mary Jane. The father ended his days at the home of his son William, dying in 1873, at the age of seventy-four years.

Mr. Miller passed his boyhood days in Indiana, where poverty prevented him from getting the education he desired. At the age of eleven he began to work on a farm for his board and clothes. He

worked as a day-laborer in a grain warehouse at Lafayette, Ind., for three years. In the fall of 1869 he came to Carroll Township, where he commenced work at cutting corn At this time he met his future wife, Rebecca J. Morse, who was working by the week for his employer. In eight weeks after making her acquaintance they were married, the ceremony occurring Dec. 9, 1869. She is the daughter of Joseph and Catherine Marsh, the former a native of Vermilion County, and is said to be the first white child born in this county. Her mother was born at Georgetown, Vermilion County, and was one of the first native girls of said county. Her father's ancestry dates back to the early history of Pennsylvania, while her great-grandfather was a Quaker, and was present at William Penn's famous treaty with the Indians. Mrs. Miller's father, Lieut. Marsh, served under Gen. Scott in the Mexican War. He also enlisted in the War of the Rebellion, but, being crippled, was not accepted. He lived to be a man of seventy-four years of age, dying April 31, 1887. His wife is still living at Sedalia, Mo., and is active and vigorous. They were the parents of fourteen children, of whom eight are now living—Cynthia A., Rebecca J., William, Esau, Mary E., Jesse C., James and Ida G. Emma died at Sedalia, Mo.; she was the wife of James Larkins, and left one child. Cynthia resides in Missouri, and is married to a farmer by the name of John Wyley; they have three children: John M. is a dealer in lime, and is married. Esau is at Sedalia, Mo., where he lives with his wife, whose maiden name was Ida Bennett; they have two children. Mary E. is the wife of Millard Perry, who is residing in Sidell Township, being one of the leading stockmen there; his sketch appears in this book. Jesse C. is building a telegraph line in Texas; James is operating his mother's farm at Sedalia, Mo., where Ida G. is also living.

At the time of his marriage, Mr. Miller had $1 in money, while his wife's assets amounted to twenty five cents, and from this small beginning they have marched along, meeting every obstruction in the highway of life with industry and intelligence, and so have succeeded. After marriage Mr. Miller left his bride at Lafayette and started out, walking twenty-five miles in order to get a job of work. After laboring a while he returned for his wife. They rented a farm in Warren County, Ind., working for one-third of the profit. The first year they made just enough to buy a cow. Mr. Miller came back to Vermilion County, and in partnership with his father-in-law, Mr. Marsh, rented a farm, continuing to work in this manner for six or seven years. The farm was located in Vance Township, and at first fortune seemed to be against him. He paid $4 per acre rent, and the first being a wet season, crops failed. He purchased seventy head of hogs, and calculated to fatten them on soft corn, but they were seized with cholera, and all died but three. This left him $250 in debt. Although completely used up financially, he was not discouraged. His landlord was unrelenting, and demanded the last cent of the rent due. Mr. Miller prophesied that he would sometime see him a day-laborer, and it came true. The next year he rented a farm close to Catlin, and made enough to pay back his former landlord, and from this on he continued to prosper. He first purchased a small farm unimproved, broke it and sold it. He then purchased a lot of young cattle and began to rent on a larger scale. He bought a farm of eighty acres, but sickness came upon him, and for three years he was an invalid. He had mortgaged his farm for $2,000, at ten per cent interest, and he realized the fact that he must lose his farm, and against the advice of his doctor started out and began to trade horses, and although at first he was scarcely able to ride a mile, he gradually grew stronger, and the dark clouds of adversity began to disappear. In this way he managed to raise the mortgage on his farm, selling it the following fall at a nice advance. At this time he intended to relinquish farming, but availed himself of an opportunity to buy a good farm. In the meantime, his health growing better, he managed to keep on top, and has accumulated a comfortable fortune.

He is the father of twelve children: William E.; Franklin died when he was three months old; John D.; Edgar L.; Mabel died when three months old; Cloyd C., Clemme Thomas; Emma I. died when she was one year old; the remaining children died while very young. William E. is at home, and has charge of the farm, assisted by his brother John D.;

the remainder of the children are also living at home. Mr. Miller is a Prohibitionist, and omits no opportunity of aiding the cause of temperance. He is serving a second term as Counsellor of the Modern Woodmen of Sidell, and is also an Odd Fellow, but he takes greater interest in Sabbath-schools and churches than in anything else, he and his wife being members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, where he has served as Deacon for several years. He organized the first Presbyterian Sunday-school in Sidell Township. Mr. Miller has plainly demonstrated that a horse buyer can prosecute his calling and yet be a sober man and total abstainer. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are among the very best citizens of Sidell.

A fine lithographic view of Mr. Miller's beautiful and commodious residence appears in an appropriate place in the ALBUM.

JAMES P. COOK. This gentleman deserves honorable mention among the younger members of the farming community of Georgetown Township. A native of Catlin Township, he was born March 27, 1855, was reared at his father's homestead, and acquired his education in the common school. His boyhood and youth were spent in a comparatively uneventful manner, he in the meantime becoming familiar with the pursuits of farm life, acquiring those habits of industry and being imbued with those high moral principles which have made him a man among men, and one of the most highly esteemed citizens of his township. He remained a member of his father's household until twenty-two years of age, and then, ambitious to establish a fireside of his own, was married, Sept. 5, 1877, to Miss Ina O'Neal, the wedding taking place at the bride's sister's home in Georgetown.

The young people began the journey of life on the farm which they now occupy, and where they have one of the neatest homes to be found in the township. Both have sprung from good families, and are laboring with a mutual purpose to make a record which shall be worthy of emulation. They enjoy the acquaintance of hosts of friends, who are watching their career with kindly interest. The dwelling is surrounded with all the evidences of taste and refinement, while the farming operations of Mr. Cook are conducted with that thoroughness and good judgment which can scarcely fail of successful results. The farm is ninety-two acres in extent, lying on section 6, in Georgetown Township. The residence is near the limits of Westville.

The parents of our subject were Samuel and Melvina (Graves) Cook, who were natives, respectfully, of Ohio and Kentucky, and further mention of whom is made in the sketch of Samuel Cook on another page of this work. The mother died in 1867, at the early age of thirty-three years, leaving five children, namely: George W., James P. (our subject), Mary, Maggie (who died at the interesting age of fifteen years), and Charles F. The eldest son is a resident of Catlin Township, is married and the father of three children; Mary married John Wherry, a farmer of Catlin Township, and is the mother of two children; Charles F. is farming in Georgetown Township.

The father of Mrs. Cook was three times married, and there were born five children by the first union and five by the second. Mrs. C. was the third child of the second wife, and was born in Danville Township, Vermilion County, March 23, 1857. The family removed to Georgetown Township a few years later, of which she has since been a resident. Of her union with our subject there have been born four children—Lillian Gertrude, Stella E. and Lena J. (twins), and Herman. Mr. Cook politically votes the straight Democratic ticket, and both he and his wife are prominently connected with the Christian Church.

ANNIAS BRANHAM. This gentleman is particularly distinguished as having been an old soldier with a good army record. After laying aside the implements of war he turned his attention to the peaceful employments of rural life and has gained quite a reputation among the horsemen of the county as being a good

judge of this animal and quite skilled as a doctor in this line. He had considerable experience in the army as a veterinary surgeon and is the owner of some fine horses, among them "Sam, the Canadian."

The subject of this biography was born near Bloomington, in Monroe Co., Ind., on the Bean Blossom River, in the township of the same name, Jan. 27, 1830. His parents were Livingston and Susannah (Meade) Branham, the former a native of East Tennessee and the latter of North Carolina. The paternal grand-parents were natives of Virginia and of Irish ancestry while the Meades trace their origin to Holland. The parents of our subject were married in East Tennessee whence they removed to Indiana in the latter part of 1829, settling in Monroe County. The father carried on farming in Monroe and Owen counties and died near Spencer in the latter county in the year 1865 at the age of seventy years. He served in the Black Hawk War in 1832. The mother survived her husband until 1875, and passed away at the advanced age of eighty years. They were the parents of twelve children, viz: Jonathan, Sarah, William, James, Elizabeth, Annias, Amanda, Joseph, Mary, Milton, Elisha and Bud, who died in infancy.

The education of our subject was obtained by an attendance at school three months, and upon approaching manhood he worked fourteen years by the month, from the age of thirteen until a man of twenty-seven. On the 5th of April, 1860, he took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Esther E., daughter of Jacob and Esther R. (Kirby) Summet. The parents of Mrs. Branham were natives respectively of North Carolina and Halifax County, Va. They removed to Indiana in their youth and were married at Ellettsville, Monroe Co. to which Grandfather Kirby had removed as early as 1824. There was born to them ten children, the eldest dying in infancy. The others were Jeremiah C., Alice C., Esther E., William L., Sally A., Joel H., an infant who died unnamed, Emily and Mary D. Esther E. the wife of our subject was born in Monroe County, Ind., April 1, 1839, and remained a member of the parental household until her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Branham began their wedded life on a rented farm in Indiana. On the 3d of July, 1861, our subject entered the Union Army as a member of Company I, 22d Indiana Infantry and was mustered into the service at North Madison. The regiment drilled there for a time, then repaired to St. Louis to guard the city, having for their weapons 10,000 clubs and no muskets for six weeks. Thence they were ordered to Jefferson City where they met the enemy in battle and subsequently were at Glasgow, where in the confusion and darkness of midnight a fight took place among the Union troops who through mistake attacked each other, killing several men and officers.

This regiment next met the enemy in battle at Georgetown and followed up the rebel general, Price on his raid, fighting at Warrensburg, Mo., and capturing 1,100 rebels, next moving upon Raleigh, Springfield and Pea Ridge, Ark. Prior to this Mr. Branham had been detailed as a teamster. Later they were ordered to Cape Girardeau, Mo., where they took the boats and landed at Hamburg early in the morning. In the afternoon they participated in the battle of Corinth then moved on to Nashville, Tenn., and Perrysville and Crab Orchard, Ky. Next returning to Nashville, they fought on the way to Mumfordsville, Ky., and afterward at Murfreesboro, Tenn., where our subject with 400 other teamsters was captured by the notorious Texas rangers, but they were re-taken by the Union troops on the same day.

Mr. Branham participated later in some of the important battles of the war, including the siege of Atlanta, during which time his term of enlistment expired. He received his discharge in that city and was mustered out at Louisville, Ky. He returned to Indiana in the fall of 1864 and remained there till the spring of 1870. His next removal was to Chrisman, Ill., where he carried on farming for several years, then in 1875 purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies, and rents 120 acres besides. From these various sources he realizes a handsome income, which enables him to surround himself and family with all of the comforts of life and many of its luxuries.

Seven children were born to our subject and his estimable wife, the eldest of whom, Emily F., is a resident of Nebraska; Ellsworth, Kirby, Walter, Ollie, Lossie and Frank, the baby, are all at home with their parents. The latter are consistent mem-

bers of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Dallas, and our subject as an ex-soldier, belongs to the G. A. R. Post at Ridge Farm, of which he is a charter member and in which he has held the offices of Senior Vice Commander, Sergeant and Officer of the Guard. He entered the army from a sense of duty and it is one of his dearest wishes that when he is consigned to mother earth it shall be done with the honors properly belonging to a soldier. It is hardly necessary to state that he is a true-blue Republican and believes in the "Union forever."

HENRY C. HOLTON, M. D. There is no class of men of more importance in a community than the physician and surgeon, and none who have intrusted to them more serious and weighty interests. He who has the delicacy, the honor and the fine judgment to hold these interests as they should be held, is worthy of more than a passing notice. No man in the profession along the eastern line of the State probably has performed his duty with a more conscientious fidelity than the subject of this notice. Nature has endowed him with great gifts, and he has had the wisdom to make the most of his opportunities. Home-loving and domestic in his tastes, he is well qualified to preside at the bedside of suffering humanity, and to extend that ready sympathy which in most cases is more effective than drugs and nostrums.

Personally, Dr. Holton is a man of fine presence and superior address, cultivated, affable and pleasant, and one who invariably commands respect wherever he is known. He is the eldest resident physician of Sidell, and one of those who has been largely interested in building up the town. During his six years' practice here he has been remarkably successful. He is still young and in the midst of his usefulness, having been born Oct. 23, 1853, at what was then Dallas, but is now Indianola, this county. He was reared in his native town, and received his early education in the common schools. At the age of seventeen years, and after the death of his father, he entered the Illinois University, where he took a year's course, and at the expiration of this time began teaching, which profession he followed for a period of ten years in the schools of Palermo and Indianola. In the former place he began reading medicine under Dr. Martinie, with whom he remained two years, and afterward read with Dr. Worthington, of Indianola, two years. In the fall of 1881 he entered Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, where he pursued his studies until being graduated in 1883. He worked his way upward unaided, earning the money to pay his tuition and expenses.

Dr. Holton entered upon the practice of his profession at Homer, but as the town of Sidell began to grow up he determined to settle at this place. In the meantime he practiced at Archie until 1887, and put up a fine frame residence there. Later he he moved his office and barn from Archie to Sidell. He was married in the fall of 1883 to Miss Ura, daughter of A. L. Ames, a lineal descendant of Oliver Ames, well known in the early history of this country. The maiden name of her mother was Urania Howell. Her father was born in Vermont and her mother in New York State. After marriage they went to California, where their daughter Ura was born, and where they lived from 1852 until 1859. Upon returning to Illinois they settled in Belvidere, but later removed to Edgar County, where Mrs. Holton developed into womanhood. Of her union with our subject there have been born three children, Max, Wade and Dean, who died at the age of five months. Mrs. Holton is a member of the Baptist Church at Palermo. The Doctor advocates the principles of the Republican party, but has never been active in politics, preferring to give his best efforts to his profession. To this he is devoting all his energies, and is meeting with flattering success. He expends a large sum of money each year in prosecuting his researches into the science of medicine, and has one of the largest private libraries in the county.

Dr. Holton is a charter member of Peace Dale Lodge No. 225, I. O. O. F., and has been through all the Chairs at Palermo, being likwise a charter member of this lodge. He is also a charter member of the Modern Woodmen's Camp at Sidell and officiated as the first Chief Consul. He was ap-

pointed a delegate to the Grand Camp at Des Moines, but on account of professional duties was not able to attend. He is the Examining Physician for this camp, and operates in the same capacity for the Union Central Life Insurance Company of Cincinnati, also for the N. Y. Life Insurance Company. He has an unusually fine collection of surgical instruments, and fully understands the use of them.

The parents of our subject were Leonard C. and Helen L. (Dudley) Holton, the former a native of Chester, Vt., and the latter born in the neighborhood of Bennington, that State. They were married in Kentucky, to which State the mother had removed and taught school when a young lady. Leonard Holton was Captain of a steamboat plying on the Ohio River, which he followed until 1845, when the whole family came to Illinois and settled near the present site of Indianola. Capt. Holton then engaged in merchandising, and assisted in laying out the town. It was found that there were two post-offices bearing the name of Dallas, so the name was changed to Indianola. The father died there in 1870, in the sixty-first year of his age. He was very active and energetic, and contributed his full quota to the building up of the town. The mother, after the death of her husband, removed to Danville, became identified with the public schools in the fall of 1871, and for fourteen years thereafter was actively and prominently connected with educational matters. Then, on account of ill-health, she resigned her position and is now living in retirement at Danville. She has followed the profession of a teacher in Vermont, Kentucky and Illinois, making of it an art and a science, and being uniformly successful.

To the parents of our subject there were born four children: Abbie, Frank D., Henry C. and William James. Abbie became the wife of William Donne, an attorney-at-law of New York City. She died in 1876, leaving one child, a daughter, Lulu, and the latter is now living with our subject's mother at Danville. Frank D. married a Miss Shedd, and is mining for gold, silver and tin in the Black Hills in Dakota; he has two children—Leo Frank and Leonard. William James married Miss Lizzie Sanders of Danville, and operates as Chief Train Dispatcher for the Chicago & Western Indiana, with headquarters at Chicago; he has two children—Abbie and Frank. The Holton family traces its ancestry to England, and was first represented in America during the Colonial times.

CHARLES F. HULL. Some of the finest vehicles driven on the streets of Indianola have been turned out from the shop of this citizen, who is an expert mechanic, doing general blacksmithing and manufacturing road vehicles. He began learning his trade without a dollar of assistance and has placed himself in a good position, financially, by close application to business. He is a fine horse-shoer—in fact, understands all the details of his line of business from beginning to end, and has hosts of friends who rejoice at his prosperity.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Dr. James S. Hull, who is well remembered by the citizens of this county as one of its oldest and most reliable physicians. The latter was born in Ohio and was the son of a typical Pennsylvanian of Revolutionary stock. He followed his practice in Indianola for a period of eighteen years and is still living there, being now seventy-two years old, while his wife is aged seventy. She also was born in Ohio. They were married in Covington, Ind., where they resided several years before coming to this county. Five of their children lived to mature years, viz: Francis Marion, Kissey, Mattie A., Charles F., our subject and Edwin M.

Mr. Hull was born June 3, 1856, at Covington, Ind., and was a lad of eleven years when his father's family came to this county. He gave evidence of his mechanical genius at an early age and first learned the blacksmith trade. He began work with Frank Miller, remaining with him nine months and then engaged with Mr. Hewes for seven years finishing his trade with him. He then formed a partnership with T. F. Hewes and they operated together until 1887 when their stock was destroyed by fire, involving considerable loss. After this Mr. Hull and Hewes established a shop at Sidell

and rebuilt the one at Indianola. The partnership was dissolved in the fall of 1888, Mr. Hull then resuming the shop at Indianola.

Our subject was married Dec. 11, 1883, to Miss Martha A., daughter of William and Mary A. (Bartler) Pollard. Her parents were natives of Yorkshire, England, and emigrated to America in 1856. They spent one year in Canada, then in 1857 came to this county and the father put up one of the first steam sawmills along its southern line. They made their home in Carroll Township and Mr. Pollard built up a good business and was doing well when he unfortunately went security for a friend with the usual result—losing nearly all he possessed. He was drowned in Indianola July 4, 1886, at the age of sixty-six years. The mother is still living and is now sixty-nine years old. They were the parents of four children—Paul, John, Sarah and Martha A.

Mrs. Hull was born near Bradford in Yorkshire, England, and was quite young when her parents came to America, although she recollects many scenes and incidents connected with her native place. Of her union with our subject there have born two children—Clarence Elmo and Rosa Myrtle, aged (1889) four and two years respectively. The family residence is situated in the east part of town and forms a very comfortable home, which is the resort of many friends of our subject and his estimable wife.

Mr. Hull, politically, is a sound Republican, but has had no time to assume the responsibilities of office, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs. He is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen Lodge of Indianola and in religious matters belongs to the Baptist Church. Mrs. Hull finds her religious home in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Hull were John and Ann Pollard, the grandfather a millwright by trade and a very fine mechanic. He was peculiarly trusty and faithful, and sojourned at one place for the long period of forty-five years. He was never ill a day in his life and died at the age of ninety-six years. His son, William, the father of Mrs. Hull, was born in Bradford, England, where he became a mechanical engineer and operated various mills in the old country, being an expert. He was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but his mind became impaired through illness and he ended his life by drowning. He had made three trips to America and spent his last days in Carroll Township, this county. Mrs. Pollard is still living and is a genial and pleasant lady, making her home in Carroll where she has many friends.

ALEXANDER COLLIER is one of the early settlers of this country, who is now living in the enjoyment of the pleasant surroundings which are the result of his early privations in doing his share to build up this great Empire. In the career of Mr. Collier we find an excellent example for young men just embarking in the field of active life, of what may be accomplished by a man beginning poor, but honest, prudent and industrious. In early life he enjoyed but few advantages. His school days were limited, nor had he wealth or position to aid him in starting in the great battle. He relied solely upon his own efforts and his own conduct to win for him prosperity, nor has his been a success solely in the sense of accumulating wealth, but in doing good to others and in winning their respect and esteem. He has ever strictly observed that most important factor in the successful public or business life of anyone—honesty.

Mr. Collier owns 250 acres of land on section 19, Elwood Township, where he resides. He was born in Washington County, Tenn., Nov. 12, 1830. His father, Leonard Collier, was a native of Virginia, and located in Tennessee in 1820, where he became prosperous and influential among his neighbors. Alexander's education was received at subscription schools and under difficulties. The schoolhouse in which he attended school was but a rude hut, with no conveniences whatever to induce a child to seek knowledge, but, on the contrary, the surroundings of the alleged schoolhouses of those days were repulsive to the youthful mind and engendered hostility to learning. He came

Samuel T. Stevens

to Vermilion County in the autumn of 1851, and has lived in this neighborhood since, except for four years, when he resided just across the State line. His mother was Charlotte, daughter of John Slaygle. She was the mother of ten children, four of whom are living: John, George, Sarah (Mrs. Moore), and Alexander. Four of the other children lived to be women before they died, viz: Catherine, Eliza A., Nancy and Elizabeth.

Mr. Collier married Elizabeth, daughter of William Jennings, Dec. 20, 1855. She was born in Greene County, Tenn., and her mother's maiden name was Sarah Jones. Both the parents are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Collier are the parents of four children, three of whom are living: Francis M., Phœbe J. and Sarah C. Francis married Dora Moore, of Missouri, and lives in this township; they have two children—Josephine B. and Charles S. Phœbe J. married Eli Stahl of this township, and is the mother of three children—Bertie, Vora Belle and an infant, Bessie May; Sarah is the wife of James Van Duyn; they have three children—Alexander, Coy and Addie Belle.

Mr. Collier rents the most of his large farm to his children, who are engaged in stock-raising and general farming. He has never sought office, but has found that he has enough to attend to in strictly minding his own affairs. Mrs. Collier is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, to which her husband is a liberal contributor.

SAMUEL T. STEVENS, one of the survivors of the 25th Illinois Infantry, and now a prosperous farmer of Georgetown Township, is one of the most highly esteemed citizens in this community, being upright and industrious, greatly attached to his home and justly proud of his army record, which is creditable in the extreme. He was born in Vernon Township, Jennings Co., Ind., near the town of Vernon, Nov. 4, 1834, and is a son of John and Jane (Thompson) Stevens, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Kentucky. They were married at Brooks Point, Vermilion Co., Ill., to which they had come at a very early day, and subsequently took up their abode in Jennings County, Ind., where the father died when his son, Samuel was only five years old. The mother came back to Brooks Point in 1853, and died there in 1873, when sixty-two years old. She was married three times after the death of her first husband by whom she had four children—Sarah H., Samuel T., Francis M., and Nancy. By her second husband, William McCabe, she had three children. Her third husband was William Brown and the fourth James Ogden. By the latter two she had no children.

Samuel Stevens began to "paddle his own canoe" when a lad of twelve years. He learned the trade of a stone mason and plasterer, serving three years apprenticeship, but not liking the business abandoned it and turned his attention to farming pursuits, working out by the month. When about twenty years old he returned to Illinois and on the 7th of June, 1861, enlisted at Indianola in Company D, 25th Illinois Infantry. He was mustered into service at St. Louis, Mo., and fought the rebels at Pea Ridge, after which he went with his regiment after the rebel, Gen. Price, in the Southwest. In June, 1862 they joined the Army of the Tennessee and fought at Corinth and Green River Bridge. At Louisville they recruited, after which followed the battle of Perryville, Oct 7, of that year.

From Perryville, our subject went with his regiment to Nashville, Tenn., where they remained until the 26th of November, 1862, then entered on the Murfreesboro campaign. They fought with the rebels at Tullahoma and were next at Chattanooga, after which followed the battle of Chickamauga, Sept. 19, 20, 1863, whence they retreated to Chattanooga, and later engaged with the enemy at Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge and Tunnel Hill. Subsequently followed the Atlanta campaign, upon which they entered May 4, 1864, and while retreating through a peach orchard at Chickamauga, Mr. Stevens was struck by a missile on the left hip and knocked several yards. He succeeding in getting to the ambulance and was taken to the hospital at Chattanooga, where he remained two weeks and was sufficiently recovered to engage in the fight at Mission Ridge; he was also engaged

in the Knoxville campaign which was sent to the relief of Gen. Burnside, who was bottled up near Knoxville.

Our subject was wounded a second time at Noonday Creek, near Marietta, Ga., by a minie-ball which passed through his leg above the knee. He was taken a second time to the hospital at Chattanooga and later to the Cumberland hospital at Nashville, Tenn. The term of his enlistment soon expired and he was mustered out Sept. 5, 1864, at Springfield, Ill. From that time until 1868 he occupied himself in farming pursuits and in that year was married to Miss Hannah Gerard, who is a daughter of John and Mary (Fisher) Gerard, who came from Indiana to this State and settled in 1851 upon the land now owned and occupied by our subject. Of this union there have been born nine children, namely: Ulysses S.; Ezra A., Lucy A., Mary J., Robert T., Willian F., Viola M., Johnnie H., and Clarence E. Mr. Stevens, politically, is a strong Republican, and he and his estimable wife are members of the Christian Church.

A portrait of Mr. Stevens is shown elsewhere in this work.

WILLIAM HESTER. Those middle-aged men who are natives of this county, were born under the most primitive conditions and spent their childhood and youth in the wilderness, amid the frequently thrilling scenes of pioneer life. They became inured to arduous labor at an early age, and thus acquired that independence of thought and character of which are made the best men of this period of the world. They also acquired the habit of viewing toil and danger undismayed, and were fully prepared for the later labors and struggles which developed the wilderness into the homes of an intelligent and prosperous people. Those who to-day are enjoying the blessings of civilization can scarcely realize what they owe to those men who assisted in bringing about the present order of things.

A native of Elwood Township, this county, our subject was born May 17, 1838, and is the son of Thomas Hester, who was born in Guilford County, N. C., and who removed with his parents to Clinton County, Ohio, when a lad nine years of age. He left the Buckeye State in 1835, coming to Randolph County, Ind., settling near Winchester, that county, where he improved a farm from the heavy timber land in White River Township and where he sojourned ten years. Next he removed to Tazewell County, this State, where he lived six years engaged in farming. His next removal was to this county and he settled March 31, 1838, on the land now occupied by his son, our subject, on section 24 in Elwood Township. He did his own blacksmithing for about thirty years, and was a true type of the industrious pioneer who, by his sturdy industry and perseverance built up a good home and accumulated a comfortable property.

The mother of our subject was in her maidenhood Miss Mary Leonard. She also like her father, Ezekiel Leonard, was born in North Carolina and was of Irish ancestry. Grandfather Francis Hester, also a native of the above mentioned State, was of Scotch ancestry and followed the occupation of both farmer and shoemaker. To the parents of our subject there were born seven children, four of whom are living, and William is the youngest. The other three are Jesse, Rebecca, Mrs. Reece, and John. The others lived to mature years. They were Hannah, Mrs. Cook; Mary, Mrs. Larrance; and Robert. All at their decease left families.

William Hester was reared to manhood at the old homestead where he now lives, and completed his education in Bloomingdale Academy under the instruction of Prof. Hobbs. He taught school two winters, but with this exception has been engaged in farming pursuits all his life. He is a member of the Society of Friends and contributed generously toward the erection of their fine new church and the Vermilion Academy building at Vermilion Grove. The academy is under the auspices of the Friends.

Mr. Hester was married March 8, 1860, to Miss Maria, daughter of Ira Mills, deceased, who came to this county in 1821. This lady became the mother of two children one only of whom is living—Cassius M. She died Jan. 19, 1863. Our subject contracted a second marriage March 6, 1867, with Miss Rachel J., daughter of William

Stafford, of Vermilion Grove, and of this union there were born three children, only two of whom are living—Rhoda J., Mrs. Mills and Thomas W. The mother of these children died June 15, 1885, and on the 7th of March, 1887, Mr. Hester was married to Miss Martha A., daughter of Joseph Hawkins, near Rardin, Coles Co.

The land possessions of Mr. Hester aggregate 248 acres and he makes a specialty of graded horses, Short-horn cattle, Poland-China swine and high grade Merino sheep. He uniformly votes the Republican ticket and keeps himself well posted upon matters of State and National interest. Like his honored parents he belongs to the Society of Friends. The mother of Mr. Hester died May 2, 1867, and his father Nov. 10, 1875. They were most worthy and excellent people, living at peace with their neighbors and doing good as they had opportunity.

SILAS DICKSON. Few persons can sojourn very long in Indianola without becoming familiar with the name of Mr. Dickson, who is a son of one of the early pioneers of Vermilion, and one of the first children who, born in this county, have grown up with the country. He is now past the meridian of life. He has inherited from a substantial ancestry those qualities of character which have made him an enterprising business man and placed him in an enviable position in his community.

Mr. Dickson was born May 25, 1830, in Carroll Township, and spent his boyhood and youth amid the scenes of pioneer life, becoming familiar with healthy hard work and receiving his education in the common school. He remained a member of the parental household until a man of thirty-four years, and was then married, Oct. 13, 1864, to Miss Frances Foos. The newly wedded pair settled down on a farm and for a number of years thereafter Mr. Dickson gave his attention to agriculture and the cattle business. In the latter he became interested when only a boy, and since reaching manhood has driven hundreds of fat cattle to New York City, selling them to local butchers. He saw the first car-load of beef cattle that were ever shipped into that metropolis from Illinois, and about the time there was being agitated the advisability of shipping stock by rail.

Mr. Dickson is an extensive land owner, having 600 acres in Edgar County and a farm of eighty acres adjoining Indianola. To him and his estimable wife there have been born three children: Robert, Lena, and Albertus. The daughter is the wife of Edward Cannon, who is interested in an electric light plant in Portland, Oregon. The sons are at home with their parents. Mr. Dickson uniformly votes the Democratic ticket, but with the exception of serving as a juryman several times, has never mingled much in public affairs. Mrs. Dickson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mrs. Dickson is the daughter of Franklin and Amelia (Howe) Foos, the former of whom is the oldest living native of what was then Franklin, but is now Columbus County, Ohio. He was born July 4, 1803, and now makes his home in Danville. Mr. Foos and Michael Sullivan were school boys together. The mother was a native of Maryland and a distant relative of Elias Howe, the inventor of the sewing machine. One of the members of the firm of Foos & Co., of Springfield, Ohio, is a half brother of Mrs. Dickson's father. The mother died in November, 1883, at the age of seventy-five years. She had a family of eleven children, seven of whom grew to mature years, viz: Louisa, Lydia, Joseph, Amelia, Lovina, Francis, and Ellen. Mrs. Dickson was born in Madison County, Ohio, in 1841, and was a girl of ten years when she came with her parents to this county. She made the acquaintance of her future husband in Indianola.

David Dickson, the father of our subject, is now a gentleman of eighty-three years. He traveled all over this State from north to south and from east to west at a very early day, when it was the extreme frontier and there were but very few settlements within its limits. He was born in Lewis County, Ky., and married Miss Margaret Waters, a native of Stafford Court House, Va., and closely allied to the F. F. V.'s. Her ancestors came from Scotland, while the Dicksons were of

English origin, and upon coming to this country settled in Maryland. Subsequently they removed to Kentucky. The paternal grandfather of our subject, whose name was Means, was of Irish descent, and at an early day settled in New Jersey, whence he removed to Pennsylvania, and then to Kentucky during its pioneer days. He was the representative of a very large and influential family.

Mr. Dickson came to Illinois a single man and was married in Vermilion County. He took up land and settled near Paris in 1824, when it was a mere trading place. He became the father of four children: Silas, Robert, Permelia, and Jemima. Robert died unmarried at the age of thirty-three years; Permelia became the wife of Dr. Ralston, and resides in Danville; Jemima, Mrs. Varner, lives in Edgar County. The mother died in 1887.

BENJAMIN F. LEACH. In the subject of this notice there is easily recognized a man of high social qualities, well educated, cultivated in his tastes, one who is public-spirited and takes a warm interest in educational matters. He was in former years occupied as a teacher, but of late has been interested in agricultural pursuits, and is the Grain Weigher of Humrick. He was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Sept. 23, 1846, and is consequently a man in the prime of life and in the midst of his usefulness.

By reverting to the family history of our subject we find that he is the son of William and Mary (Monroe) Leach, natives of Culpeper County, Va., and the parents of fourteen children, of whom five are living, as follows. Sarah A., now Mrs. Parker, is a resident of Gentry County, Mo.; William M. lives in Phillips County, Kan.: Henry C. resides in Washington County, Ark., as does also his sister, Mary C., Mrs. Carney. Benjamin F., our subject, came with the family to this county in October, 1852. They met with a great affliction in the death of the father, which occurred less than a year later, June 23, 1853. The mother and sons carried on the farm as best they could until all the children were able to take care of themselves. Mrs. Leach finally went to Neosha County, Kan., where her death took place in 1873.

Mr. Leach, our subject, has been familiar with agricultural pursuits since his earliest recollections, and followed them exclusively with the exception of the time occupied as a teacher. His early advantages were necessarily limited, but he made the most of his opportunities for observation and information and came out a bright and intelligent young man of more than ordinary abilities. When twenty-four years old he was married, in Elwood Township, March 31, 1875, to Miss Alma J., daughter of Darius Baldwin, one of the early settlers of Danville Township, and now deceased. The four children born of this union were named respectively, Albert W., Richard B., Mary E., and Nellie C.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Leach took up their residence in Elwood Township, where our subject confined his attention to the development of his farm and lived there until February, 1886; then, retiring from the more arduous duties of farm life, he took up his residence in Humrick and now busies himself with lighter employments. He has officiated as Tax Collector of the township three terms; was Highway Commissioner one term, and is at present Justice of the Peace. He finds his religious home in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and socially belongs to the Masonic fraternity.

CLAYTON B. ELLIOTT. This well-to-do and intelligent bachelor citizen may be found usually at his well-regulated homestead on section 26 in Elwood Township, where he is successfully engaged in general agriculture, and from which he realizes annually a snug income. His farm contains seventy acres and lies adjacent to Yankee Point. He also has 160 acres near Newman, in Douglas County, Ill. He has been quite an extensive traveler in the South and the West, and, although possessing a limited education, has made such good use of his opportunities for the observation of men and things that he is at once

recognized as a well-informed man of more than ordinary intelligence.

Our subject was born in Wayne County, Ind., March 10, 1854, and is the son of Nathan Elliott, who is now deceased, and the brother of H. C. and Wesley Elliott, sketches of whom appear elsewhere in this ALBUM. He was brought to this county by his parents when an infant of ten months, and after attending the common school became also a student of Vermilion Academy and the Wesleyan University at Bloomington. In the fall of 1881 he set out for Washington, traversing the Union and Central Pacific Railroads from Chicago to San Francisco and thence by steamer to Portland, Ore., where he spent the winter. In the meantime he was at Puget Sound. In the spring of 1882 he went up the Willamette Valley, where he sojourned until after the 4th of July. On that day he attended a celebration at a point near by across the river, and saw half-breed Indians and French taking part in the foot races. Later he repaired to Pataha, in the southeastern part of Washington, and occupied himself at lumbering in the Blue Mountains until harvest time, in the month of August. He then repaired to the Pataha Flats and assisted in threshing wheat for twenty-seven days, and until in September, when he returned to the Blue Mountains and worked in the lumber woods until the deep snow drove out the men. Returning now to Pataha Flats he sojourned there until the spring of 1883, then traveled on foot to Spokane Falls and to the Big Bend country, in the Columbia River region. He staid over night with Wild Goose Bill, who had a squaw for a wife. There he secured a pony, and, in company with Bill's two boys started out to see a large spring near by. The boys had a lasso, and one of them exerted his skill on our subject. The latter having money feared at first that they were intending to overpower and rob him, but he found that they were simply amusing themselves at his expense. They called him a "tenderfoot," and had great sport in lassoing his horse and a colt which was following the pony he rode.

Our subject finally returned to Spokane Falls and thence by the Northern Pacific Railroad to its terminus, where he took the stage and traveled 300 miles to Bozeman, Mont. We next find him at Livingstone, where he remained until July 3, engaged in a lumber-yard and as a carpenter. From there he traveled up the Yellowstone Park, entering it July 4, 1883, and viewing the Yellowstone Falls and Canyon, the Hot Springs, and all the other natural wonders of that region. He spent the following winter at Livingstone, Montana, then journeyed to St. Paul via the Northern Pacific Railroad. He visited Chicago on his way home. That same spring he took a trip through Southern Kansas, visiting his brother Alvin, near Cedar Vale. In September following he settled on a farm and has since given his undivided attention to its various interests.

Mr. Elliott, politically, supports the principles of the Republican party, but has never sought official honors. In his youth he was extremely anxious to obtain a thorough education, but on account of the death of his father when he was twenty years old he was obliged to abandon his cherished plan. He remained with his mother and operated the farm two years.

FRANCIS GAINES. After a busy life has been nearly spent, and all the trials and vicissitudes incident to a pioneer's career have been met with courage, honor and industry, there is nothing more pleasant than to see a man who has been faithful in all things, retire from active pursuits. Here he can look back upon all his actions with pleasure, and can with truth say that he has done the best he could. And what more is expected of any man? And this is the case with Francis Gaines.

Mr. Gaines was born in Clarke County, Ohio, on July 28, 1823. His parents went to Greene County, Ohio, soon after his birth, where they lived continuously until death called them away. His mother died in 1881, at the age of eighty-four, and his father followed her to the grave in 1886, at the great age of four-score and six. They had eleven children—Elizabeth, Francis, James, William, Jonathan, Benjamin, Henry, Phœbe, Susan, Sarah and

Amanda. The latter died when she was three years of age, while the remaining children lived to be men and women. Mr. Gaines acquired his education in the primitive school-houses that were scattered all over Ohio at the time of his boyhood, and being the oldest son, he was obliged to defer many advantages that he could have taken to gain an education. By an inscrutable decree of mankind, the oldest boy of a farmer's family has always been the cart-horse that has drawn the rest of the children after him. Responsibilities have rested upon the oldest boy that have as a rule kept him from gaining the education he should have, and Mr. Gaines was in this position. For many a day, and before he was ten years of age he has followed the plow whose mouldboard was constructed of wood. What would the boys of this generation think of such a proceeding as this? And such things as this ought to increase the respect that is certainly due to those who tilled the soil in an early day, and paved the way for an empire.

By the time that Mr. Gaines became twenty-one years of age he was an expert in agricultural pursuits, and also as a woodman. At this time he secured a job of cutting wood for twenty-five cents a cord, and three or four cords a day was easy work for him. In 1845 he was married to Miss Mary Jane McFarland, of Greene County, Ohio, and in 1847 the young couple settled in Carroll Township, this county, about three miles south of Indianola. His wife made all their clothes from the raw material, and everything that was procured in those days was by hard labor. In 1871 the good mother died, and out of seven children born to her but two were reared to maturity—Sarah A. and Edmund. Sarah married F. D. Neblick, who is residing on the homestead; they have two children—Francis D. and Mabel.

Mr. Gaines was married a second time in 1871, to Mrs. Josephine Gaines, widow of his brother William, and by this union one child was born—Mary E. William Gaines died in 1863. Mrs. Gaines is the daughter of L. Patterson and Catherine (Baum) Patterson, the former a native of Ohio, where he was married, and came to this State in 1839. He lived to be seventy-three years old, and his wife died at the early age of thirty-nine. She left six children: Augustus D., Josephine A. (Mrs. Gaines), Emily C., Charles, John Harvey and Albert, who was drowned. Mrs. Gaines was born in Brown County, Ohio, and came to Illinois when she was eighteen months old. She was but fourteen years old when her mother died, and her youngest brother, Albert, was but three years of age. She was obligged to assume the responsibility of the household, and nobly she cared for her younger brothers and sisters. By her first marriage she is the mother of one child—Franklin W.—who is still living.

In 1883 Mr. Gaines erected a very commodious and elegant house in Indianola, which is surrounded with everything to make the place pleasant. The highest amount of land he has ever owned at one time, was 375 acres, and he owns now a half section, all under a fine state of cultivation. This is all due to his own industry, excepting $400 which was given him by his father, and invested in lands. He has speculated somewhat in real estate, and in this he has prospered. Mr. and Mrs. Gaines are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, she having belonged to that organization since she was nineteen, while her husband first united with the church thirty-nine years ago. He was Superintendent of the Sunday-schools in the southern part of the county, and has served in various capacities in his church, holding the offices of Trustee, Treasurer and Steward. He has held the positions of School Director and Trustee for a long time, and has also served as Road Overseer and Commissioner of Highways. Mr. Gaines has always exhibited great interest in the schools and roads. He votes with the Democratic party and has never sought office.

GRANVILLE PUGH. Those who have been eye-witnesses of the pioneer scenes of Central Illinois are fast passing away; and when we are privileged to take such an one by the hand, it is an event which will be remembered for many a day. Mr. Pugh is one of the oldest settlers of this county, to which he came when Indians and wild animals abounded, and when the

foot of the white man had scarcely pressed the soil of Elwood Township. Here he has spent the best years of his life, and his long and arduous labors have been crowned with success. He owns and occupies one of the finest farms in this region, embellished with an imposing residence, two stories in height, above the basement, and not far away a magnificent grove. Under his careful management the land has been brought to a high state of cultivation, and is improved with all the appliances suggested to the enterprising and progressive farmer.

The opening years of the life of our subject were spent in Jefferson County Ohio, where he was born Feb. 2, 1824. His father, John Pugh, deceased, was a native of Chester County, Pa., and emigrated to the Buckeye State in 1823. He had been married to Miss Jane Gamble, a native of Cecil County, Md., and to them there were born three children, all of whom lived to mature years. Edwin is now deceased; Granville, our subject, was the second child; Hannah, Mrs. Kendall, lives in Ringgold County, Iowa.

The ancestors of our subject were born and reared in the Quaker faith for many generations back. His maternal grandfather, John Gamble, was a native of Ireland, and crossed the Atlantic in time to participate in the War of 1812. John Pugh came with his family to this county as early as 1830, settling on the Little Vermilion in Carroll Township. In 1836 he changed his residence, and became owner of the land which his son, Granville, now owns and occupies. Here both parents spent their last years, the father dying in 1847, in middle life, and the mother surviving her husband many years, passing away in 1884.

The first studies of our subject were conducted in a log cabin, with its puncheon floor, greased paper for window panes, seats and desks made of slabs and fastened to the wall with rude wooden pins. Young Pugh took great interest in spelling, and on Christmas night, in 1848, spelled down the whole large school at Ridge Farm. He assisted his father in the development of his homestead, and remained a member of the parental family until passing his thirty-second birth-day. He was then married, May 31, 1856, to Miss Lydia, daughter of Isaac Thompson, one of the earliest settlers of Elwood Township. Mrs. Pugh was born in Parke County, Ind., March 7, 1835, and of her union with our subject there were born nine children, eight of whom are living. John J., the eldest, married Miss Emily Dillon, and lives in Prairie Township; they have six children—Grace, Ada, Bertha, Charles, Ella and Howard; Ezra K. married Miss Lilly Thompson, lives in Broadland, Champaign County, and has two children—Roscoe E. and May; Paris J. married Miss Lucy Hiberly, and occupies a part of the homestead; they have one child—Mary A.; Isaac M., Monroe, Howard, Jane E. and Dolly are at home with their parents.

The landed possessions of Mr. Pugh aggregate 350 acres, largely devoted to stock purposes, he making a specialty of graded Short-horn cattle and Poland-China swine. Since reaching his majority he has been a prominent man in his community, and has held the office of School Director for the long period of forty years. He officiated as Justice of the Peace and Township Supervisor one year, and was Highway Commissioner several years. He votes the straight Republican ticket, and his estimable wife is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The family stands second to none in Vermilion County.

In 1832, during the progress of the Black Hawk War, a man by the name of Isaac Mardick lived upon the same section as Mr. Pugh, and in the month of June was plowing corn. Another man in the vicinity, named Laban Dillon, thinking to have some sport, dressed himself up as an Indian, took a gun and repaired to the field where Mr. Mardick was at work, crawling along Indian fashion, until he was discovered by Mr. Mardick. Then he rose and lifted his gun, as if to fire, when Mr. Mardick ran home as fast as his legs would carry him, leaving his horse and plow in the field. Arriving there he offered another man a colt if he would go and bring the horse to the house. The story naturally leaked out, and Mr. Mardick became the laughing-stock of the neighborhood. Many were the practical jokes played in those times, and each one was made the most of in the absence of the amusements and recreations of more enlightened times. None enjoyed those little incidents more

than Mr. Pugh, and it is safe to say that he contributed his share to the general stock. He has been prospered in his labors, and now, sitting under his own vine and figtree, feels properly that he has not lived in vain. He has endeavored to do as little harm as possible in the world, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of many friends.

GEORGE HEILEMAN, the leading carriage manufacturer of Indianola, is a skilled mechanic of ability, active and enterprising as a business man, and one who is regarded as a most useful member of society, temperate, peaceable and law-abiding, uniformly upholding the elements which form the basis of good citizenship. He has risen from an humble position to one of prominence and influence in his community, socially and financially; and for a period of seventeen years he has been engaged in his present business in the town where he now lives.

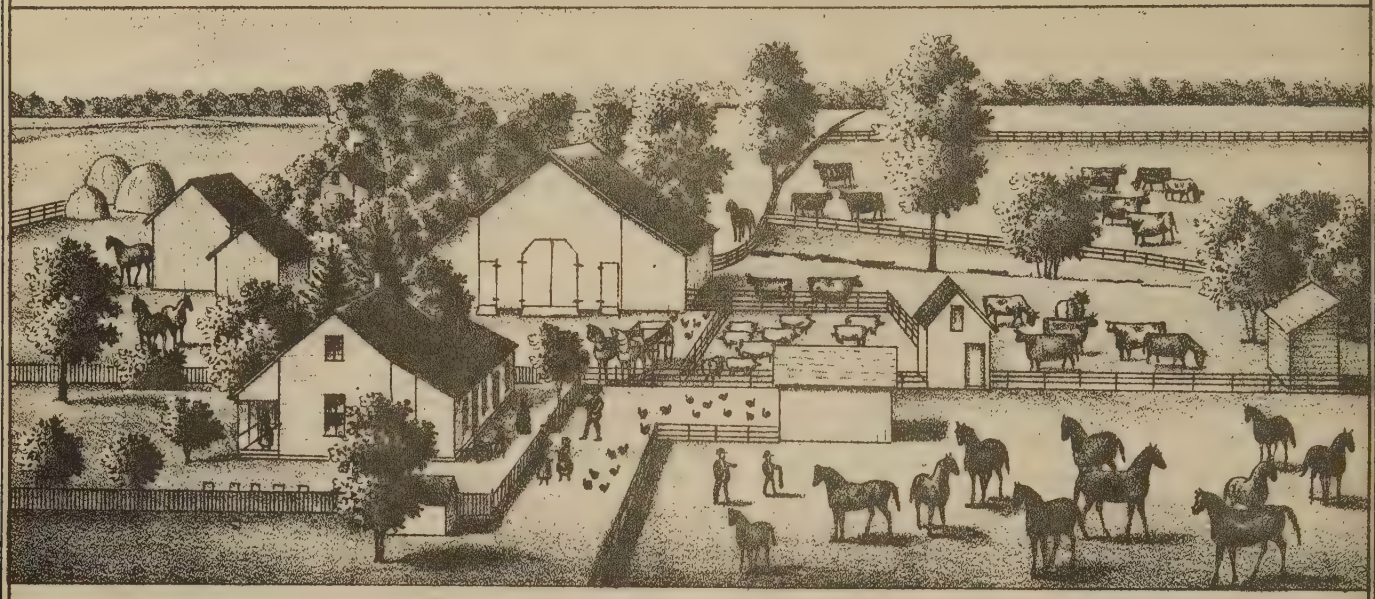
Mr. Heileman was born in Germantown, a suburb of Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 22, 1847, and there spent the days of his childhood and youth. His father, John Heileman, a native of Germany, was a blacksmith by trade and was married in the Fatherland to Miss Anna Barbara Shimp. They lived one year after their marriage in their native province, then about 1843, crossed the Atlantic with their first born child--Katie, and settled near the City of Brotherly Love, where the household circle was increased by the birth of five more children, viz: an infant, who died unamed, Michael, George, our subject, Rose, and John.

Michael Heileman served four years in the Union Army during the Civil War and afterward emigrated to Corsicana, Tex., where he engaged as a harness-maker. Rose married George Mebs, a carpenter and builder, and they live in Columbus, Ohio; John is a blacksmith by trade and also a resident of Columbus. The father died in middle life and the mother was left in straightened circumstances, being obliged to part with some of her children. Michael and George were placed in the Northern Home for friendless children, where the later remained four years. When nine years old he was taken into the home of James D. Lawson, of Woodstown, N. J., to whom he was bound until he reached his majority. He only stayed with him seven years, as Mr. Lawson retired from the farm and re-bound the boy to a carriage-maker of Salem, N. J. The natural inclinations of young Heileman were in the line of mechanics, and he never found greater delight than in using tools. He served one year in the carriage-shop and then the Civil War being in progress, although near its close, he enlisted April 9, 1865, in Company K, 215th Pennsylvania Infantry, for one year and was mustered into service at Camp Cadwallader.

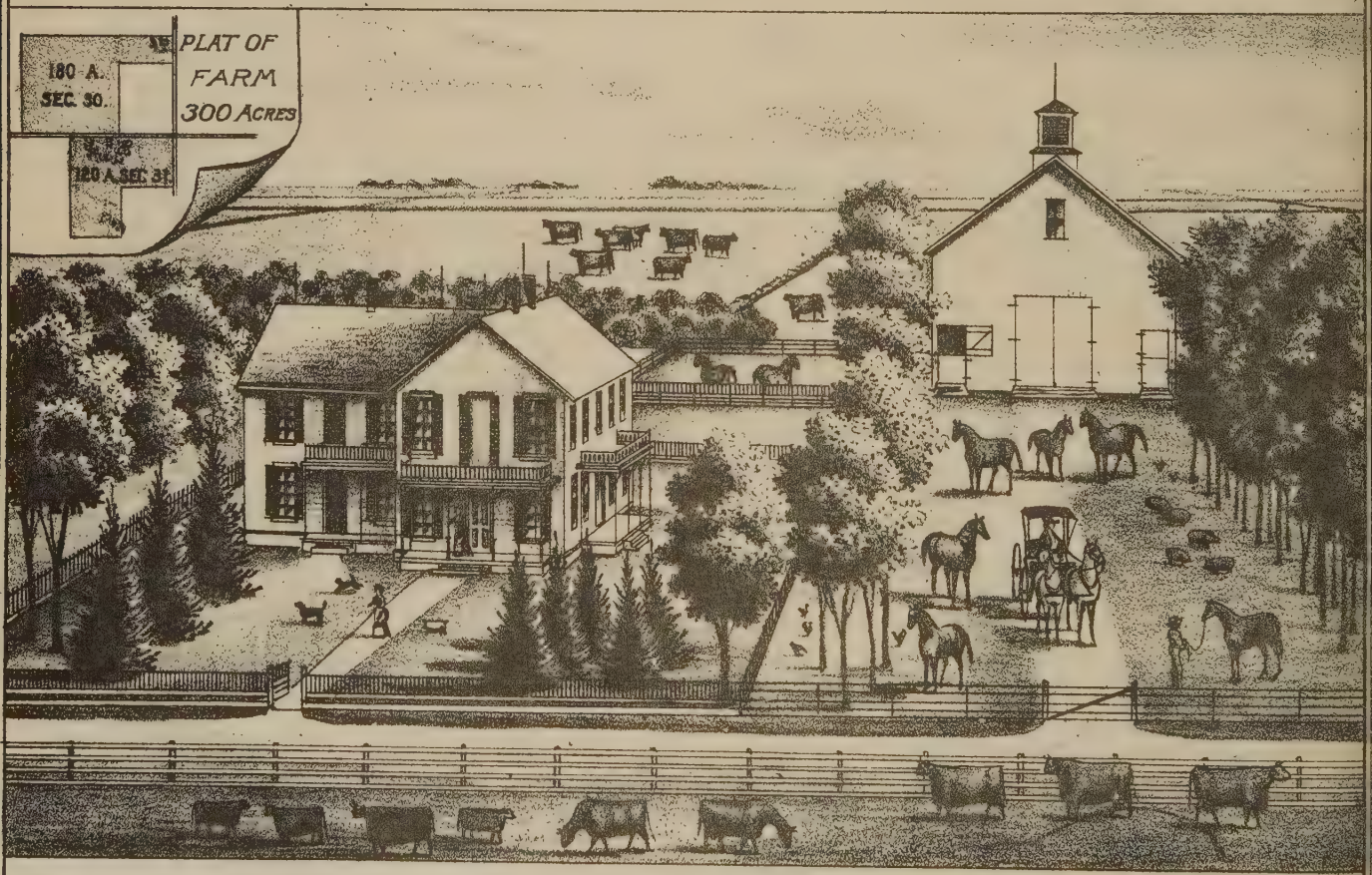
This regiment left at once for Fairfax, Va., and was mostly afterward employed on guard duty around Washington, and Ft. Delaware, where were imprisoned 5,000 rebels. These were paroled at the close of the war and our subject received his honorable discharge, Aug. 15, 1865, when less than seventeen years old. He now returned to his former employer, with whom he remained four years. Next we find him in Williamsport, Pa., employed in a carriage shop, previous to this, he had made the acquaintance of T. F. Hewes, through whose influence he subsequently came west and joined Mr. Hewes in Indianola in May, 1872. He was in the employ of Frank Miller afterward for a period of five years, then engaged with W. T. Butler for one year, and in 1879 purchased the shop standing upon the site of that which he now owns and occupies and which was destroyed by fire March 4, 1887.

Mr. Heileman now occupies a snug brick building, the second floor of which is used as a public hall and the reading room of the Modern Woodmen Camp of Indianola. In it are also held the village and township meetings, and in addition it is used as the headquarters of the Indianola Building and Loan Association, of which Mr. Heileman is a charter member and Treasurer. In the Camp above spoken of he is banker. He belongs to the A. F. & A. M. fraternity, being Master of Vermilion Lodge No. 265, and with his estimable wife belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Our subject was married May 7, 1874, to Miss Emma V. McHaffie, who was born in Indianola,



RESIDENCE OF JACOB FULTZ, SEC. 26. GEORGETOWN TP., VERMILION CO.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN TRISLER. SEC. 31., SIDELL T'P., VERMILION CO.

and is the daughter of Dr. J. B. McHaffie, who was one of the first physicians of this place, and commands a first-class practice. His wife, formerly Miss Elizabeth Everhart, is a native of Germany, and is still living, being sixty-four years old. They have four children surviving, the eldest of whom, Mary, is the wife of William Stark, who is searching for gold in the mines of Colorado; Eliza is the wife of Frank Baum of Carroll Township; Andrew is at home with his mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Hieleman have three children—William Howard, Garnet, and Leonidas. Mr. Hieleman is serving his seventh term as Township Clerk, and his politics will readily be guessed from the fact that he is one of the leading members of the Indianola Democratic Club. He is also Treasurer of the School Board, and has served three terms as Clerk of the Village Board, besides one term as Trustee. He also officiates as Treasurer and Secretary of the Woodlawn Cemetery Association, being on the second term of six years. His neat and comfortable residence is pleasantly located on West Main street. The fact that he is well spoken of by his neighbors and his fellow-townsmen, is ample evidence of the estimation in which he is held as a business man and a citizen.

JOHN TRISLER. It is usually fair to judge of a man's character and capacities by his surroundings, and we would thus presume that Mr. Trisler is second to no man in his township as a farmer and business man, while he possesses the cultivated tastes which have led him to build up one of the most attractive homes within its limits. Soon after settling upon the farm which he now occupies he began planning for the residence which he contemplated building, and prepared the grounds accordingly. There now stands upon them an elegant two-story residence, in the midst of a grove planted by the proprietor fourteen years ago, and which serves to make a delightful shade in summer time, while protecting the dwelling from the bitter blasts of winter. Interspersed with forest trees are beautiful evergreens, while the buildings and appurtenances adjoining serve to complete the ideal country estate.

Mr. Trisler may most properly be termed a self-made man. Having been thrown upon his own resources at an early period in life, he has worked his way up by steady perseverance and industry to a good position, socially and financially. He pays strict attention to his own affairs, is rather exclusive in his tastes and manner of living, and is well respected in his community. In his labors and worthy ambitions he has found a most efficient assistant in his industrious, business-like and capable wife, who has done her share toward the accumulation of the property and the building up of the homestead. Mr. Trisler during the stormy days of the Rebellion arrayed himself most decidedly on the side of the Union, and no man was more rejoiced at its perpetuation and the extinction of slavery.

Until a boy of eight years our subject spent his early life in Maysville, Ky., where he was born Dec. 18, 1842. Thence his parents removed to Illinois about 1850, making the journey thither by water and overland. During the progress of this trip the boy was lost in Cincinnati, which occasioned great distress to his parents until they found him. Arriving in this State, the family located in Coles County, where our subject attended school until about fourteen years old, and then removed with his parents to this county. Here he attended school in Danville for two years. Later the father decided to take up his residence in Catlin Township, and John continued a member of the parental household until it was disbanded, in 1860. He had begun work on a farm when a boy of seven or eight years, and was thus employed after leaving home.

After the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Trisler, in 1862, enlisted as a Union soldier in Com-Company A, 71st Illinois Infantry, in the ninety-days' service, being mustered in at Springfield and assigned mostly to guard duty in the vicinity of Columbus, Ky. At the expiration of his term of enlistment, he was discharged at Chicago, but in the spring of 1863 re-enlisted with the 100-day's men, in Company E, 135th Illinois Infantry. The com-

pany was mustered into service at Mattoon, whence they proceeded to St. Louis, Mo., and were assigned as guard to prisoners, after which they were sent to Iron Mountain. The second time our subject was discharged at Mattoon, Ill., four weeks beyond the expiration of the time for which he had enlisted.

The war not yet being ended, our subject for the third time proffered his services, this time for one year or during the war, in Company K, 149th Illinois Infantry. He was mustered in at Danville, and, going to the front, marched through Georgia, Tennessee and Alabama. In 1862 he had been promoted to Corporal, and in 1864 received the commission of Sergeant. While along the Mississippi he suffered from jaundice, from which he has never been entirely relieved since. He was finally discharged at the close of the war, in May, 1865, at Dalton, Ga.

After retiring from the army, Mr. Trisler returned to Catlin Township, this county, and began operating on rented land. On the 6th of October, 1868, he was married to Miss Abbie A. Douglas, who was born at Stoughton, Dane Co., Wis. In due time our subject purchased eighty acres of land, which was the beginning of his large farm, now embracing 300 acres. He has made of agriculture an art and a science, which fact accounts for his success. Under his careful management his land has become highly productive, while he avails himself of modern methods and the latest improved machinery in the tilling of the soil. He keeps himself well posted both in regard to agriculture and other things of interest to the broad and liberal-minded citizen, and is consequently enabled to operate to the best advantage as the result of observation and experience. The household circle includes three bright children—Veronica T., Cushing H. and John Earl.

Joseph and Elizabeth (Wells) Trisler, the parents of our subject, were natives respectively of Ohio and Kentucky, and were married in the latter State. The father was a farmer by occupation, and came with his family to Illinois in 1850, settling in Coles County. The father is still living, at the age of seventy-three years, and makes his home in Milwaukee, Wis. The mother died April 28, 1855, in Coles County. Seven of their children grew to mature years: William, John (our subject), Sarah E., Mary M., Robert, Johanna and Joseph.

The parents of Mrs. Trisler were Cushing and Clarissa Ann (Douglas) Douglas, the father born near Bangor, Me., and the mother in Indiana. Her father was a near kinsman to Stephen A. Douglas, of Illinois, and followed the occupation of a farmer. They were residents of Adams County, Wis., twelve years, and from there came to this county, settling in Catlin Township. Later in life they removed to Catlin Village, where they now live, the father being sixty-five and the mother fifty-six years old. Their four children were named respectively: Abbie Ann, Hortensia, Clara I. (who died when one year old) and Florence. The second mentioned is the widow of Ed Ruby. She resides in New Mexico, and has one child—Burda. Florence married Theodore Terpening, a druggist of Catlin, and they have four children—Max, Don D., Pussy P. and a babe unnamed. Mrs. Trisler was a girl of fifteen years when her parents settled in Catlin Township.

Both our subject and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, to which they have always given a liberal support, especially during the erection of the church edifice. Mr. Trisler is an uncompromising Democrat, politically, and has served as Director in the school district three years.

A fine view is presented elsewhere in this work, of the pleasant home and surroundings of Mr. Trisler, where he lives in the enjoyment of a happy family, and where his friends are ever kindly welcomed.

JACOB FULTZ. The fine farm of our subject, comprising 180 acres, on section 11, Georgetown Township, is a standing monument to his intelligent industry. Mr. Fultz is a native of Indiana, having been born in Eugene Township, Vermillion County, of that State, Aug. 17, 1830. He inherits his fine constitution from his mother, whose people came from the verdure-

clad shores of Ireland, bringing with them the fine physique for which the natives of that isle are noted. On reaching this country they settled in Virginia, from which place our subject's mother, Miss Nancy Givens, came to Parke County, Ind., while yet in her teens. From his father's side Mr. Fultz inherited his full share of the bountiful supply of brain power with which that parent was endowed. William Fultz, the father of the subject of this notice, was a native of the old Keystone State, his parents having come to Pennsylvania from Germany. While a mere boy the family turned their faces Westward and came to Ohio. On reaching more mature years, young William followed on toward the setting sun, and while in Parke County, Ind., met and married his amiable wife. Although Indians were plentiful in their neighborhood, they succeeded in escaping unpleasant courtesies from them. In 1826 Mr. and Mrs. William Fultz set up their household gods in Eugene Township, Vermillion Co., Ind., where they continued to reside until death, the former expiring in 1876, at the ripe age of seventy-one, and the latter eight years later, in 1884, after having traveled life's rugged pathway for three years longer than the alotted time of three-score years and ten, being just seventy-three years old. Having been busy bees in life's hive of workers, they had the satisfaction of seeing abundant prosperity crown their efforts before they crossed the river to the great beyond. Nine children came to claim their care and reward their affection, as follows: Margaret, Jacob, Isaac, Mary, Rebecca, Martha, William, John and Isabella.

Jacob, the subject of this sketch, commenced his school-life at the usual age of six years, attending school the three winter months, while the rest of the year was devoted to work. The school-house that the children of that district attended was built mostly of buckeye logs, hewn on two sides. Slabs and planks surrounding the fireplace, in the center, formed the seats of the youthful seekers after knowledge. When necessary to heat the building a fire was built and the smoke coaxed to ascend outward by means of a stick and mud chimney, all not escaping by that means finding ready access to the outer air through the numerous cracks in the walls. Although his school facilities were so meager, yet he there laid the foundation of the love of learning that has remained with him until the present day, making him an authority among his neighbors on many disputed points, especially in history, in which subject a naturally good memory, kept in constant practice by abundant and judiciously selected reading, enables him to keep abreast of the times, and supplies the lack he might otherwise feel of a better education in his youth. While on a visit to relatives at Springfield, Ill., he became acquainted with Joe. Agey and Ed Randal, who engaged him to drive a team for them to Kansas. Border-ruffianism prevailed in that region in those days, which soon disgusted him, and he returned home, remaining until September, 1862, at which time he enlisted in Company K., 71st Indiana Infantry, for three years or during the war. He was mustered into the service at Penny's Mills, Ind., whence they went to Terre Haute and afterward to Indianapolis, at each of which places they were drilled preparatory to going South for active service. At the battle of Richmond, Ky., he nobly sustained his part, fighting desperately until captured by the Confederates under the renowned Kirby Smith. The prisoners were parolled and permitted to return to Terre Haute, where they remained until exchanged. He was then assigned to guard duty at Indianapolis, serving faithfully through the winter of 1862–63. Owing to exposure while there, he was taken ill with pneumonia and nearly succumbed to its attack; but in the providence of God he rallied sufficiently to get about, although he was not able to do anything but light work for a period of about four years. In the latter part of April, 1863, he was discharged on account of physical disability, having been in the United States service a year lacking five days. Coming home he operated his father's farm in Eugene Township, Vermillion Co., Ind., for a number of years. In the year 1873, the 3d day of October, he was married to Miss Louisa Murrey. This lady had an eventful experience in her youthful days. Being born in New Orleans before the war, and losing her mother while yet a child, her father had her conveyed up the Mississippi River to an uncle and aunt living in Mississippi. Being Unionists

when the war broke out, they were in great peril for sometime, but succeeded in escaping on a steamer coming North. Reaching Eugene Township, they settled there, and in that pleasant locality the amiable Mrs. Fultz blossomed into womanhood. While living there she made the acquaintance of the subject of this sketch, and, as before stated, was united in marriage with him. In the spring of 1874 they came to their present farm, securing at first sixty acres, which formed the nucleus of their present large possession. In politics Mr. Fultz is a strong protectionist, agreeing in that respect with the majority of the Republican party, to which he adheres.

Believing in progress as he does, and having such a high regard for education, his neighbors have shown their appreciation of his merits by electing him School Trustee of the township, a position he is eminently qualified to fill. Their family has been increased by the addition of seven children, named respectively: John, Mary E., Olive M., Owen Wendel, Nancy, Lola M. and Carrie. Jacob Fultz is one of the best known men in Georgetown Township. Being endowed by nature with a good judgment, he readily distinguishes in reading between meritorious works and those of little or no intrinsic worth. His happy disposition makes him an agreeable companion among friends, while his generous and public-spirited actions commend him to progressive citizens everywhere. Having a profound mind as well as a retentive memory, he has escaped the misery of those narrow-minded men whose ideas all run in one groove, and instead enjoys the blessing of the liberal-minded, who see good in many places where inferior intellects see only evil. Being fond of literature, he seldom lets an opportunity pass of securing a good book when one is brought to his notice. He enjoys, moreover, that great boon, a good home, and his love for his family and honest pride in their well-being is fully returned, his children not only holding him in affectionate regard, but respecting his honest worth as well.

Following the occupation of our first parents, he does not disdain to use his intelligence in directing the operations of his farm, but uses his best efforts to pursuade mother Earth to yield him her choicest treasures. Any one wishing to know "how doth the little busy bee," may easily and pleasantly secure the information by calling on Mr. Fultz, who will be delighted to give them an object lesson on his farm, where numbers of the little creatures "improve the shining hours," to his profit and the visitor's enlightenment. A generous hospitality is extended to guests by Mr. Fultz and his estimable wife. A lithographic view of their home appears elsewhere in this volume.

DAVID S. DICKEN. Here and there we find an individual who first opened his eyes to the light during the pioneer days of this county, and practically grew up with the country. The early impressions which those youths received were such as would naturally develop within them health and strength, both of mind and body, and they have almost without exception attained to a worthy and vigorous manhood. The subject of this notice was at an early age introduced to labor, and has come out of his struggle with the world with a competence for his old age. He is now retired from the active duties of life, and lives comfortably in a pleasant home at Ridge Farm.

Our subject was born on section 1, Elwood Township, May 14, 1836, and is the son of John C. Dicken, deceased, the latter a native of Kentucky. His paternal grandfather was born in Virginia, and coming West at an early day, was the third settler on Coleman's Prairie, Vermillion Co., Ind., to which Mr. Coleman and one Mr. Hopkins had preceded him. In 1832 he came to this county and settled in Elwood Township. The maiden name of the mother was Hannah Golden, daughter of William Golden, and the parental household included ten children. Of these only three are living —David S., our subject; Julia A., Mrs. Burchett, of Paris, and Susanna, Mrs. Porter, of Prairie Township, Edgar County.

The father of our subject removed to Georgetown in the spring of 1853, and to the Ridge in the following fall. He put up a store and carried

on general merchandising several years. In 1857 he went to Newman and built the first store in that place. He sold goods there two years, then returned to the Ridge and died in the early part of 1873. The mother had passed to her final rest in 1860.

Mr. Dicken, our subject, attended first the common school. In Georgetown he attended a High School, which was considered the best institution of the kind in the county. Later he began an apprenticeship at harness-making, which he followed several years, and finally established in business for himself, conducting a large trade. During the progress of the Civil War, and soon after the call for three years' troops, he enlisted in Company A, 25th Illinois Infantry, in June, 1861, going in as a private. Later he was promoted to a Sergeant, but on account of disability was obliged to accept his honorable discharge, March 9, 1863.

Mr. Dicken assisted in raising Company E, 135th Illinois Infantry, in May, 1864, for the 100-days' service. He was elected First Lieutenant, served out his time, then enlisted, in February, 1865, in Company E, 150th Illinois Infantry. While at Camp Butler he was made Quartermaster Sergeant, and when the first vacancy occurred was made Second Lieutenant of Company F, in the same regiment. Subsequently he was commissioned First Lieutenant of Company H, 136th U. S. Colored Troops. After three week's service he was elected Captain, but was discharged before receiving his commission. He now draws a small pension.

Our subject was appointed to the Railway Postal Service in January, 1872, first on the Chicago, Danville & Vincennes, then transferred to the Illinois Central and Rock Island Roads mostly, until sending in his resignation on account of ill-health, Oct. 27, 1883. He was first assistant at the post-office in Danville, one year under Mr. Jewell, which position he held until failing health compelled him to retire. He has thus been about seventeen years in the United States service, during which time he discharged his duties in that faithful and conscientious manner which made for him many friends.

The 11th of September, 1859, witnessed the marriage of our subject with Miss Ann M., daughter of William Crawford, one of the earliest settlers of this county, and now deceased. Of this union there have been born three children, the eldest of whom, Ida M., married Charles E. Chesley, of Danville, and is the mother of two children—Buelah and Edna; Effie R. married Dr. D. C. Hinshaw, of Ridge Farm, and of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume; Mark L., the youngest of the family, makes his home with his father. The mother of these children departed this life April 3, 1874. Our subject contracted a second marriage, May 12, 1886, with Mrs. Mary F. Little, widow of George C. Little, and daughter of Dudley McClain (deceased), and niece of Deacon Allen McClain, of Urbana. Mrs. Dicken had one child by her first husband, Lewis McClain Little. She was born at Old Bloomfield, this State, and is a lady prominent in her community, being a devout member of the Baptist Church, and a busy and earnest Sunday-school worker. Mr. Dicken was the first Commander of the G. A. R. Post at Ridge Farm, and is still connected with the organization. He is widely and favorably known to most of the older residents of the county, is an honest man and good citizen, and has contributed his full share toward the development of her most important interests.

HENRY C. ELLIOTT, Attorney-at-Law and Notary Public, is also President of the County Board of Supervisors and makes his home and headquarters at Ridge Farm. He is now entering upon his second term as a member of the Board, and is fulfilling the duties of his position in a manner creditable to himself and satisfactory to his constituents. He is very popular among his fellow citizens, a man of a very bright mind and more than ordinarily well informed. His aim is to excel in whatever he undertakes, and there is a fair prospect of his attaining to his best ambitions.

A native of Wayne County, Ind., Mr. Elliott was born Aug. 1, 1843, and is the son of Nathan Elliott, a native of South Carolina and now de-

ceased. The family left the South, removing to Indiana, when Henry C. was a small boy. They were among the earliest pioneers of that region, settling in the woods when Indians and wild animals abounded. The mother in her girlhood was Miss Naomi Mendenhall, also a native of North Carolina. Eight children were born to the parents, seven of whom are living and of whom Henry C. is the eldest. His sister, Annie E., Mrs. Rork, is a resident of Sullivan, this State. Wesley lives at Pilot Grove; Alvin makes his home in Cowley County, Kan.; Clayton B. lives in Elwood Township, this county; Mary E., Mrs. Stogsdill, is a resident of Spencer, Iowa; Delphia, Mrs. Lynch, resides in Ridge Farm. Prior to his marriage with the mother of our subject, Nathan Elliott was married to Elizabeth Maxwell, and to them there were born three children, only one of whom is living—John, of Elwood Township.

The Elliott family came to Elwood Township in 1855, settling one and one-half miles southwest of Ridge Farm, where our subject pursued his primary studies in the district school. He remained a member of the parental household until the outbreak of the war, then enlisted as a Union soldier in Company A, 79th Illinois Infantry, under command of Col. Buckner. He met the enemy in battle at Rock Face Ridge, Dandridge, Resaca, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Marietta, Roseville, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Chattanooga and Nashville. He was wounded at Atlanta July 22, 1864, but only disabled a short time, and remained with his regiment until the close of the war, receiving his honorable discharge in June, 1865.

After the war our subject returned to this county, teaching school three winters thereafter and farming in summer until 1872. Then, repairing to Danville, he entered upon a regular law course, and later served four years as Justice of the Peace. We next find him in Newman, Douglas County, where he entered upon the regular practice of his profession, and remained until the fall of 1882. Afterward he spent four years in Menard and Sangamon counties, principally engaged in the insurance business. He returned to the Ridge in 1886 and continued his practice with excellent results. He was elected Supervisor in the spring of 1888, and re-elected in 1889 with little or no opposition. He discharges the duties of Chairman of the Board with dignity and excellent judgment, and has ever evinced a genuine interest in the welfare of his adopted county. While teaching in Edgar County he served as Justice of the Peace two years, and one year was the Tax Collector of Ross Township.

Mr. Elliott was married on the 7th of March, 1867, to Miss Rebecca, daughter of William Mills, one of the earliest pioneers of this county and now deceased. Five of the seven children born of this union are living, namely: Oliver M., Annie D., Mary, Flora and Blanche. One daughter, Ora, was taken from the home circle by death when a maiden of sixteen years. In this great affliction Mr. and Mrs. Elliott were given the deep and and heartfelt sympathy of their hosts of friends. Another daughter, Emily, died in infancy; Oliver is in the employ of the Missouri Pacific Railroad, with headquarters at St. Louis. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott are members of the Friends' Church at Ridge Farm and our subject is a sound Republican. Socially, he belongs to the Modern Woodmen, and as an ex-soldier is a member of the G. A. R.

JAMES W. FISK. In connection with the history of the men who came as pioneers to this county, there is more of interest, perhaps, than can be centered in any other period of its existence; and they who looked upon Central Illinois when it was in effect a wilderness, and who assisted in the development of its rich resources, have made for themselves an enduring name, which from this time on is destined to be perpetuated, for the people of to-day realize fully the importance of preserving from oblivion the records, which, as time goes on, seem to increase rather than diminish in value.

In the subject of this notice we find one of the leading men of Ridge Farm (having served one term as President of the Board of Trustees of the Village, and one term as a member of that body), and at present a successful dealer in agricultural

Charles S. Young

implements, buggies, carriages, wagons and farm machinery. The earlier years of his life were filled in with arduous labor, during which time he developed strength of muscle, and those qualities of mind which have made him one of the most reliable and substantial men of his community. He was born six miles north of Greencastle, Putnam Co., Ind., July 10, 1834, and is the son of Col. James Fisk, one of the pioneers of that county. The latter is still living, and is now eighty-four years old. He was born in Virginia, and removed to Indiana as early as 1825. His father, John Fisk, became a resident of Montgomery County, Ky., when James was a boy, and settled among the Indians, whom he often met in bloody conflict. He also served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. Col. James Fisk married Cassander Frakes, daughter of Joseph Frakes, also a revolutionary soldier and a great Indian fighter. The men of this branch of the Fisk family were noted for their courage and daring, having been engaged in every one of our country's wars, and the women for their virtue and common sense.

James W. Fisk began his education in a subscription school conducted in a log cabin, the seats made of split logs, the floor of the same, and the clapboard roof held to its place with knees and weight poles. The master began the exercises of the day by administering the rod to those boys whom he considered needed it most, and among them, young Fisk received his share. After coming to this State, he attended a more advanced school in Paris, in 1856, and made his home in Sims Township. The first house in his father's neighborhood whose roof was constructed without weight poles, was the dwelling of Joseph Albin, and the roof of this was fastened by means of gimlet holes with pins driven in, and was considered quite stylish.

In 1857, starting out for himself, our subject repaired to Coles County, where he harvested one crop. He then took up his residence in Clark County, of which he was a resident until April, 1884. In the meantime, during the progress of the Civil War, he enlisted in Company A, 38th Indiana Infantry, in which he served nine months, mostly as wagon-master, participating in some of the most noted battles of the Rebellion, and in the memorable march to the sea. In May, 1865, he received a sunstroke, which disabled him for three months. Although not being engaged in active battle, he saw much of the hardships and privations of a soldier's life—enough to make him, like thousands of others, long for the return of peace.

Prior to entering the army, Mr. Fisk was married, Jan. 25, 1858, to Miss Sarah A., daughter of Emanuel and Mary J. Dodd. This lady was born in Clark County, Ill., April 2, 1843, and they became the parents of four children. Of these but two are living—Robert W., born Nov. 7, 1858, and James E., Sept. 21, 1863. James E. married Miss Maggie E. Horner, and is the father of one child, Earl A.; he has been in ill health for the past three years, but is at present City Marshal of Ridge Farm. One son, Albert S., died Oct. 4, 1880, when a promising young man of twenty years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fisk are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and formerly attended Wesley Chapel in Clark County.

Emanuel Dodd, the father of Mrs. Fisk, was born near Dayton, Ohio, Feb. 12, 1816. He came with his parents, when a boy, to Clark County, this State, they settling, in 1830, on a tract of wild land at a time when Indians were plentiful and wild animals—deer, panthers and wolves—abounded. The father of Mrs. Fisk carried on farming, and later conducted a hotel in Melrose for many years. The maiden name of the mother was Mary J. Wells. Their family consisted of two children only—Mrs. Fisk, and her brother, Frank, who is twenty years younger than she. Mrs. Fisk became the mother of two children before her brother, Frank, was born. The latter is a resident of Melrose.

Mrs. Mary J. (Wells) Dodd departed this life Dec. 31, 1880, and the father of Mrs. Fisk died June 9, 1884. Mrs. Fisk has been the true pioneer wife and mother in every sense of the word, and has done a great deal of hard work in her time. During the absence of her husband in the army, she plowed with oxen, planted corn with her own hands, and performed all kinds of a man's labor with the exception of making rails and cradling wheat. In the meantime she exerted herself in the

education of her children, and bestowed upon them that careful, motherly training which no conscientious woman is willing to dispense with. She deserves special mention among those whose names are honorably recorded in this volume.

WILLIAM H. MILLS. The farming community of Carroll Township is composed of a large number of more than ordinarily intelligent and progressive men, and among them may be numbered Mr. Mills, who evidently has the proper conception of life in the country and the advantages to be derived therefrom, as a means of expanding the mind, the tastes and the intellect. While an excellent business man and prosperous in the accumulation of this world's goods, he does not place the acquisition of money above all other things but gives due attention to those matters which nourish the affections, enlarge the understanding and enter into the home life, making it beautiful and the condition most to be desired on earth. In his worthy ambitions and his cultivated tastes, Mr. Mills has a most ardent sympathizer and helper in the person of his amiable and accomplished wife, who has illustrated in a marked manner the influence which a woman may have in the construction of a home and the happiness of a family. The Mills farm in all its appointments very nearly approaches the ideal country estate, set in the midst of peace and plenty and with the surroundings which are so delightful to contemplate.

Our subject, a native of this county, was born in Elwood Township Feb. 18, 1843, and spent his boyhood days at the old Mills homestead. He was at an early age trained to habits of industry and while pursuing his studies in the district school, likewise pursued an excellent course of reading at home under the instruction of his excellent mother, the father having died when he was a small child. He and his brother Richard, at the ages of twelve and ten years respectively, practically assumed the management of the farm and a few years later engaged successfully in the live-stock business, sending annually to market large numbers of fat cattle.

Mr. Mills and his brother have worked and farmed together since boyhood and still continue in partnership. They have been phenomenally successful and are numbered among the substantial and influential men of the county. In addition to general farming and cattle-raising, they are distinguishing themselves as skillful breeders of Clydesdale horses and are able to exhibit some very fine and valuable animals. William H., in 1879 was united in marriage with Miss Anna Woodyard, who was born in Wirt County (now West) Virginia, Dec. 23, 1849. Her parents were Louis and Catherine (Wiseman) Woodyard, also natives of the Old Dominion, and who came to Illinois in April, 1865, stopping in Paris, Edgar County, two weeks. Upon the day of Lincoln's assassination they removed to the farm which they now own and occupy in Ross Township, that county. Their eleven children were all born in Virginia. The eldest son, William, is still living there and occupied as a merchant, in Spencer; he has been prominent in politics and is a member of the State Senate. Harriet is the widow of Senator Alfred Foster of West Virginia, and makes her home with her father in Ross Township, Edgar County. Senator Foster came to Illinois about 1867, and died here some few years later. Caleb is one of the leading farmers of Ross Township; James owns a farm and resides near Parsons, Kan.; Mary is the wife of Abe Pribble of Prairie Township, Edgar County; Isaac is farming in Ross Township, that county; John is a grain buyer of Woodyard Station and makes his home with his parents; Frank is farming in Prairie Township; Emma is the wife of Louis Riffe, a dry-goods merchant of Craig, Mo.

Mrs. Mills was a young girl of fifteen years when her parents came to Illinois, her life prior to this time having been spent among the mountains of her native State. She attended school quite steadily until the outbreak of the Rebellion, and was a pupil in the district school after coming to this State. She remained a member of her father's household until her marriage. Afterward Mr. Mills and his wife took up their abode at their present homestead, the old Holiday farm which Mr. Mills had purchased prior to his marriage and which comprises a little over 241 acres of land.

The two brothers are the proprietors together of 700 acres and operate under the firm name of R. & W. H. Mills.

To our subject and his estimable wife there has been born one child, a daughter, Blanche, July 30, 1880. Politically, Mr. Mills affiliates with the Republican party. He is the pronounced friend of education and donated $200 to the Vermilion Grove Academy. His father, John M. Mills, was born in Knox County, Tenn., and came to Illinois with his parents when a boy of five or six years. He was the son of John and Charity (Mendenhall) Mills who emigrated from Tennessee at an early day, settling in this county when Indians and wild animals were plentiful. He chose farming for his vocation and when reaching man's estate was married to Miss Elizabeth Mendenhall. They became the parents of three children, the eldest of whom is a daughter, Jane, who is now Mrs. Maddock and a resident of Bloomingdale, Ind. The others were Richard and William H., our subject.

Mrs. Elizabeth (Mendenhall) Mills was born near Xenia, Greene Co., Ohio, and is now an intelligent old lady of seventy-two years. She makes her home with Richard, her son. The wife of our subject is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

CHARLES S. YOUNG, a prominent citizen of Vermilion County and one of its leading agriculturists, is distinguished as having been one of the very early settlers of the county. Coming here in 1829, he has not only witnessed almost its entire growth, but has been an important factor in bringing it to its present high condition as a wealthy and flourishing community. He owns not less than twenty-five farms within the limits of Vermillion County, and cultivates a large number of acres from which he derives a fine income. His home for many years has been on his estate on section 21, Newell Township, where he has erected a substantial and roomy set of buildings, including a handsome residence, second to none in the township in beauty of architecture and neat appointments. Mr. Young is literally a self-made man, as he began life without any means, and when he came here he had only an eagle, a half dollar and twenty-five cents in his pocket. That small sum of money handled judiciously proved the nucleus of a fortune in his hands, and to-day he stands among the richest men in this locality.

Our subject is a Kentuckian by birth, born in Woodford County, Sept. 16, 1809, the second of five children of James and Lucinda (Baldwin) Young, the former a native of Woodford County, Ky., and the latter of Culpeper Court House, Va. They married and settled in Woodford County, Ky., where they spent their entire wedded life. He died in Harrison, and then she came to Vermilion County and made her home with our subject till death called her hence. Charles Young, of this sketch, was reared to manhood in his native county, living there until he was nineteen years old. He married there, and in 1829, coming to Vermilion County, settled in Newell Township on the 14th day of October, sixty years ago. He purchased eighty acres of wild prairie land three miles south of his present residence, and lived there for many years. In 1857 he purchased the property which has ever since been his home. He has met with more than usual success, as before noted. He has engaged largely in agricultural pursuits and in stock-raising, has bought and sold all kinds of stock, and has driven horses to the Cincinnati, Chicago, Racine and Milwaukee markets. During the Mexican war he was operating in Cincinnati, and has been extraordinarily successful in all his enterprises. He has been connected with numerous transactions involving large amounts of money, although he has never signed his name to anything in his life.

January 14, 1829, Mr. Young's marriage with Elizabeth Leonard was duly solemnized in Harrison County, Ky. She was born in that county January 27, 1810, and her death occurred in this county November 21, 1871 after a happy wedded life of more than forty-two years. She was a pleasant, kind-hearted woman, a sincere Christian, and a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and always took a great interest in all religious matters. To her and her husband were

born nine children, six daughters and three sons, of whom the following is recorded: Mary E. is the wife of Milton Hess; Lucindian is the wife of Franklin Stevens; Martha J. is the wife of John Huffman; Cindica is the wife of George Claypool; Noah married Mary Cunningham; Samantha is the wife of Andrew Huffman; Leonard married Mary J. Chandler, and died in Vermilion County, March 9, 1871; James L. married Miss Nancy Silvey, who died, and he afterward married Miss Elizabeth Norris; Matilda C. married Dean Tomlinson, and died in Vermilion County, February, 22, 1889.

In this brief life-record of our subject it will be seen that he is a man of more than ordinary sagacity, foresight, and shrewd business ability. He has led an honorable, upright life, has wronged no one in his many extensive dealings, and has gained a good name as well as riches, his word being as good as a bond wherever he is known. He is interested in the political situations of the day, and is a stanch Democrat of the Jacksonian type. A portrait of Mr. Young appears elsewhere in this work.

LEVI HENRY GRAVES, belongs to one of the pioneer families, being the son of James and Margaret (Blackburn) Graves, and was born Feb. 25, 1827, at the village of Millersburg, Ky., where his father was occupied as a cabinet-maker. The family came to Illinois in September, 1828, battled with the elements of life on the frontier, and made for themselves an admirable record as members of a settlement struggling for recognition and destined to form the nucleus of one of the most intelligent communities of the great West.

James Graves and his excellent wife were natives respectively of Mercer and Clark counties, Ky. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of Scotland and crossed the Atlantic in time to assist in the early settlement of Mercer County. He was married and reared a family and his son James, the father of our subject, signalized himself as a soldier in the War of 1812, fighting under Gen. Harrison on the River Thames, in Canada, and becoming a personal friend of the hero of Tippecanoe. He was married in Clark County, Ky., whither his father had removed during his boyhood.

James Graves followed cabinet-making about twelve years after coming to Illinois. He made his first trip to the State in company with Isaac Sandusky and they both took up land in Vermilion County, about one-half mile from each other. In 1828 they brought their families here, settling in their new homes in October of that year. Mr. Graves prospered in his undertaking and became the owner of 400 acres of land in what is now Georgetown Township. He departed this life in 1857 at the age of sixty-seven years. The mother survived her husband thirty years, remaining a widow and passing away in 1887 at the advanced age of ninety-three years. They brought with them seven children from the Blue Grass State and four more were added to the family circle after they became residents of Illinois. The eleven were named respectively: Greenville H., Evaline, Orville S., Cerelda, Joseph B. and James L., twins, and Levi Henry; all these were born in Kentucky. The others were: Mary, who died at the age of five or six years; Franklin, Melvina, and John L., natives of Illinois.

The father of our subject practically abandoned his trade after coming to Illinois and turned his attention to farming. Levi H., our subject, was brought here an infant at a time when deer and other wild game were plentiful and when the settlers still felt insecure from the Indians. On the prairie the grass grew higher than the back of an ordinary horse. Fever and ague added to the other discouragements encountering the pioneers, but they were made of stern stuff and there were but few who withdrew from the contest and sought their old homes in the East. All the Graves' children were required to make themselves useful around the homestead, and our subject when but a lad commenced breaking prairie with the old-fashioned "Kerry" plow and cut grain with the reaping hook or sickle. The introduction of the cradle which he remembers well, was looked upon as a remarkable invention. It was the popular opinion at that time that prairie land was of little value so the

people settled in the timber from which they cleared the trees and cultivated the soil. Very little wheat was used during the first few years, and the corn was ground in a mill of very primitive construction and operated by horse power.

Our subject remained at home with his parents until twenty-three years old, but in the meantime had been planning for an establishment of his own. On the 21st of Feburary, 1850, he was united in marriage with Miss Matilda, daughter of John and Mary (Medscor) Cook, of Fulton County, to which they had emigrated from Ohio. Mrs. Graves was born in Brown County, Ohio, and was a young lady when coming to Illinois with her parents.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Graves settled upon a little farm of forty acres in Vermilion County, which formed the nucleus of their present homestead, upon which they have since lived with the exception of three years which Mr. Graves spent in improving a farm in Bureau County, Ill. Of this marriage there were born four children, the eldest of whom a daughter, Olive A., married David E. Moore, and lives in Montgomery County, Kan., and is the mother of nine children—Milton A., Levi H., Matilda, Lydia A., George W., James A., Mary D., Hannah L. and Daisy; Mary M. married Milton Ashby of the above mentioned county and is the mother of four children—Lillie N., James L., Alva M., and Maud M.; Amanda M. married Samuel O'Niel, of Montgomery County, Kan., and has two children—Minnie L. and Gertude. James died when two years old. The mother of these children passed from earth in 1859.

Mr. Graves contracted a second marriage in 1861 with Mrs. Lucinda (Bayless) Chandler, daughter of Samuel Bayless. Her father and mother were natives of the Blue Grass State, where she lived until her first marriage, of which there was born one child, a daughter, Mary Alice. Of her union with our subject there are four children—Martha B., Lou A. and Emma S., twins, and Letta. Martha married Luther A. Clingan, a resident of Georgetown Township, and they have two children—Blanche and Herschell; Lou became the wife of Dennis Clinan and is a resident of Catlin Township; they have no children; Emma S. and Letta are at home with their parents. The farm comprises 340 acres of prime land upon which Mr. Graves has labored industriously for years and developed its best resources. He has labored early and late and for the first few years, before the advent of the mower and reaper, swung the cradle in the harvest field and farmed amid the other difficulties and disadvantages of that time. He is a strong temperance advocate and in politics a warm supporter of the Republican party. He cast his first Presidential vote for Henry Clay, being a Whig until the abandonment of the old party and totally opposed to the institution of slavery. He and his wife and their daughters are members in good standing of the Christian Church, in which Mr. Graves officiates as Elder.

JOHN BROOKS. The names Brooks and Brooks Point, bring back recollections of early days to all of the older settlers in the southeastern part of this county. Benjamin Brooks, father of the subject of this notice, came to this region in the fall of 1821. The mother, Matilda (Manville) Brooks, was a native of Madison, Ind., and came to this county from Jefferson County, Ind. They were married in Indiana. The father was a millwright by trade and died from the effects of ague, while building a mill on Sugar Creek. He left a widow with five children, and another child was born after his death. The second child, David, died in infancy. The others were named respectively: Benjamin, Polly, Sarah, John and Lucinda. The mother was married a second time and there were born five more children; of this family six are living and located mostly in Illinois.

John Brooks was born March, 20, 1824, in Vermilion County, Ill. Upon the second marriage of his mother he left home and thereafter "paddled his own canoe." When about thirteen years old he became a member of the family of John Black, an old Kentuckian and pioneer and remained with him seven years. Like Jacob of old, he worked these seven years for a daughter of Mr. Black, Miss Louisa T., to whom he was married in 1837, and

afterward settled near Brooks Point, which was named after his father. This marriage resulted in the birth of eight children, the eldest of whom, Tilda J., became the wife of Thomas W. Blakeney, who is represented elsewhere in this work, and they live in Westville; Belle became the wife of John Nicholas, a railroad man of Westville, and they have six children—Ed, Lou, Bert, Ella, Dycie, and Oney; John P., married Miss Josie Cunningham and is farming in Catlin Township, they have three children—Clara, Bobbie and Elsie; Robert L. is farming in Dakota, he married Miss Saloma Dukes; they have three children—Ethel, Coy, and Osa; Martha became the wife of Charles Snook, a farmer of Dakota and they have four children—Chester, Ada, Ray and John Franklin; Benjamin Franklin, Rosella G., and Sarah E. are living with their father.

Mr. Brooks is supposed to be the oldest pioneer in Georgetown Township, if not in the county, having come here as early as 1821. He saw the face of the country when it was a wild, uncultivated prairie abounding with wild animals, when deer were plentiful and when the cabins of the settlers were few and far between. He has been a privileged witness of the great change, which has transformed the wilderness into cultivated farms and prosperous villages, and has arisen from a humble position in life to that well-to-do citizen, the owner of two good farms, one in Georgetown and one in Catlin Township. Upon becoming a voting citizen he identified himself with the old Whig party, remaining with it until its abandonment in 1856, then cast his lot with the Republicans. This party has his warmest support and he keeps himself well posted upon currrent events. He is a man of decided ideas and one justly proud of his pioneership.

HENRY FLETCHER. The farmers of this day read a great deal of literature pertaining to their calling and they digest it. The time has gone by when agriculturists scoff at what has been popularly called "book farming." The farmer who reads the most and who heeds what he reads, is invariably the man who succeeds the best in his vocation. Natural intelligence can be largely supplemented by judicious reading. One of the men who has brought a great deal of intelligence to bear upon his business is the person whose name initiates this sketch. He never omits to do anything that will forward his interests, and his information in this respect is gleaned by copious reading.

Henry Fletcher is one of the most prosperous and intelligent farmers of this county. He owns and operates a large farm on section 32 in Elwood Township. He is a native of this county, having been born at Vermilion Grove, Oct. 28, 1839. John Fletcher, his father (whose biography appears elsewhere in this work), removed to a farm which his son Henry now owns, in March, 1840. Henry received a common school education, which was finished at the Bloomingdale Academy, under Prof. Hobbs. He was always desirous of attaining a good education, and consequently was studiously inclined. This desire bore fruit, and therefore Mr. Fletcher is in possession of a good common-sense education. On the 14th of March, 1861, he married Mahala Haworth, daughter of Eli Haworth, an early settler of this county. She was born in Georgetown, this county, Oct. 15, 1842, and received her education at the public schools. She is the mother of eight children, six of whom are living: John, Albert I., Marcus S., William R., Lydia R. and Ola M.; John married Grace Butler, and they are living near Hildreth, Ill., with their three children, Henry, Howard and Charlie H.; Albert married Belle Newlin; he is living with his father, working on the old homestead.

Mr. Fletcher owns one of the best farms in Vermilion County, everything considered. It consists of 333 acres and is all under improvement. Its owner has done everything to make it a good farm, that intelligence might suggest. He is a farmer and a stock-raiser on a large scale, and in this particular line he has prospered in a large degree. The place is supplied with fine buildings of all kinds. The residence is a model of convenience, and its interior is furnished in good style. Mr. Fletcher has held the office of Highway Commissioner in Prairie Township, Edgar County, for

five years, having lived just across the line for eleven years. He has also been a Supervisor, filling these offices with rare fidelity. He is an influential member of the Friends' Church, to which his family also belongs. He is connected with the lodge of Modern Woodmen. Mr. Fletcher enjoys a reputation among a large circle of acquaintances of being a man of good judgment and possessing all the attributes that belong to a good citizen. If there is anything in his community talked of that looks to the public good, Mr. Fletcher is interested in it, and his undivided efforts can always be drawn upon in any project that looks for the betterment of his fellow man.

HON. ANDREW GUNDY, one of the prominent merchants and public men of Vermilion County, was born on the 20th of November, 1829. His father and mother, Joseph and Sarah Gundy, were natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. They were married in the latter State and afterward emigrated to Indiana, where they remained for a short time, when they removed to Vermilion County and settled near Myersville. Joseph Gundy was the owner of about 4,000 acres of land, which he improved. He was counted as one of the leading citizens of the county, and sustained an excellent reputation for probity and business tact. He died in 1864, while his wife preceded him to the grave in 1854. A stately monument is erected to their memory in the Gundy cemetery, and one which this worthy couple deserve, for there were no better people living.

Andrew Gundy received his education at the Georgetown High School. After leaving the school he embarked in the mercantile business in Myersville, where he also was engaged in shipping grain and other farm products. He continued in this business until 1877 when he gave it up to attend to the interests of his large farm of 300 acres, all of which is improved. As a farmer, Mr. Gundy has met with all the success that the most ambitious could desire, and he is one of the many men who believe that agricultural pursuits are as susceptible of intelligent direction as any other. There are many farmers in this broad land who believe that "book farming" is impracticable, and that the authors of the works on agriculture are men who know nothing of what they write. This is all a mistaken idea, as can be illustrated all over the great State of Illinois, where farmers' literature is read and digested. As before suggested, Mr. Gundy believes that it pays to read up on agricultural affairs as well as any other.

In politics Mr. Gundy is an honest hard-working and conscientious Republican, and by his fidelity to the party of his choice, coupled with his natural abilities, he has risen to be one of the leaders of the Republican party in Vermilion County. The people, recognizing in him the qualities that unite in forming a good officer, have repeatedly elected him to responsible positions, and they have never been mistaken in their choice. In 1861 he was elected to the office of Supervisor and has held that office a great deal of the time since. In 1874 he was elected a member of the Lower House of the Illinois Assembly, a position he held for two years, giving complete satisfaction as a law-maker. He served on important committees in the House and always voted right.

Mr. Gundy is an attendant of the Methodist Church and is prominent in the affairs of that organization. He never married. He divides his time between his agricultural occupation and traveling. Vermilion County has no better citizen than the Hon. Andrew Gundy.

SAMUEL ROSS MORGAN. The man who has lived uprightly, attended strictly to his business, defrauded none, and advanced the business interests of his community, has made for himself a record which he may justly look upon with pride. He has added dignity to his calling whatever it may be, and shown to the world what may be accomplished by steady perseverance, courage and industry.

Mr. Morgan is a leading grocer of Ridge Farm,

and one who has performed no unimportant part in the development of its various interests. In politics he is a sound Republican, and after the election of Benjamin Harrison, in the fall of 1888, signalized his patriotism by one of the biggest bonfires of cigar boxes probably ever built of this material. The flames crackled and roared, and added measurably to the general noise and hilarity following upon that glorious Republican victory.

A native of Elwood Township, our subject was born March 24, 1836, and is the son of Dr. Levi Morgan, deceased. The latter was a native of Virginia, and came to Illinois in 1834, settling in Georgetown, where he engaged in the practice of his profession, and conducted a drug store several years. In 1838, while on a visit to his native State he died, in Cambridge, Ohio. Samuel Ross was the only child of his parents, and after the death of his father his mother removed to Berkley County, where our subject was reared, and attended school at Bunkerhill. His mercantile experience commenced when he was a mere boy, and he has all his life been more or less in the channels of trade.

In 1870 Mr. Morgan repaired to Baltimore, Md., where he was engaged as clerk in a hardware and grocery store, but later embarked in the grocery business on his own account. He sojourned in Baltimore four years, then came to this county, and in 1883 established himself in his present business. He carries a full stock of everything pertaining to his line—groceries, provisions, crockery, glass and queensware, cigars and tobacco, having an especially fine trade in the latter. He operates with a capital stock of $1,800 and his annual sales aggregate $8,000. His trade and stock are steadily increasing, while he has a first-class location, and fully understands the art of handling goods and dealing with customers. Always courteous and obliging, those who visit him once are sure to call again.

Miss Sally S. Dare became the wife of our subject Aug. 10, 1870. She is the daughter of Dr. John Dare, late of Baltimore, Md., and was born in Calvert County, that State. She was reared and educated in the city of Baltimore, and is a member of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Morgan, aside from enunciating his political principles as opportunities occur, meddles very little with matters outside of his business, although in 1888 he officiated as Village Treasurer. Socially he belongs to the I. O. O. F. The pleasant and attractive home of the Morgans, situated in the east part of the town, is the resort of its best people, and the abode of refined and cultivated tastes.

DR. DOUGAN C. HINSHAW. It may be safe to say that there are comparatively few physicians who have a full sense of the vital importance of their calling—taken in all its phases—and to what extent the happiness of mankind is dependent upon their knowledge of their profession. In order to attain complete success there must not only be a practical and thorough education in the intricacies of the art of healing, but a humane and sympathetic understanding of the extent to which the mind may influence the body. In most cases drugs and medicines are of little avail unless other conditions are equal. The subject of this notice has built up a large and lucrative practice, and the fact that he is uniformly popular, speaks well for him as the humane physician as well as the honored citizen. He is a man of fine intellect, a deep thinker and an extensive reader, and omits no opportunity of availing himself of the latest methods connected with the practice of his profession.

Dr. Hinshaw has been located at Ridge Farm since the middle of August, 1882. He established himself here soon after being graduated from the Medical College of Indiana, at Indianapolis, where he had taken a three-years' course. For four months thereafter he practiced in Vermilion Grove, and thence came to Ridge Farm. He is equally good in both general practice and surgery. He is essentially a Western man, having been born in Hamilton County, Ind., April 22, 1858, and is the son of John Hinshaw, a native of Randolph County, N. C.

The father of our subject came North in 1851, locating in Indiana, of which he is still a resident. The paternal great-grandfather of our subject was

of Scotch ancestry. Dougan C. first attended the common schools of Westfield, in his native county, and later attended the High School, from which he was graduated in 1877. Soon afterward he began the reading of medicine, and in order to augment his income engaged as a teacher. In 1879 he entered upon his medical course in the college at Indiana, where he paid strict attention to his books, with the result already indicated.

Dr. Hinshaw was married, Sept. 6, 1883, to Miss Effie R., daughter of David S. Dicken, of Elwood Township, and they are now the parents of two children, only one of whom is living—Hazel Bessie. The Doctor owns a good residence in the western part of the town, which is the favorite resort for the best people of his community. He is a Republican, politically, and socially, a member of the Modern Woodmen. He belongs to the Society of Friends, while his estimable wife in her religious belief is identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. They stand high in social circles, and their home is one indicative of cultivation and refinement, and whose inmates are surrounded by all the comforts of life.

NATHAN J. NORRIS, M. D., son of a pioneer family of Vermilion County, has had an honorable career in life, both as a skillful physician and as a practical, successful farmer. Within a few years he has retired from the practice of his profession and now devotes his time almost exclusively to the management of his fine farm in Newell Township, on section 26.

The Doctor is a native of Ohio, born in Brown County Dec. 14, 1824. He comes of good old Kentucky families, both of his parents, James and Elizabeth (Carter) Norris, having been born in that State, children of its early settlers. The mother was reared and married there. The father was reared in Ohio, but born in Kentucky, and subsequently settled in Brown County, Ohio, where they remained till the fall of 1833. In that season, animated by the pioneer spirit that had actuated their sires to penetrate the wilds of Kentucky, they set out for the rude, sparsely settled country embraced in Vermilion County, this State, to take up their abode among its earliest white settlers. They were among the first to settle in what is now Oakwood Township, and there the patient, self-sacrificing mother died in 1841. The father of our subject, after the sad loss of his wife, came to Newell Township and here spent his remaining days, dying in 1850.

Our subject was the eldest of the ten children born to him and his wife. He was a lad of nine years when he came with his parents to their new home in Oakwood Township, and there he passed the remaining years of his boyhood and youth. He gleaned his early education in the public schools in Brown County, Ohio, and in this county, and in 1854, returning to his native county he took up the study of medicine, attending lectures in Cincinnati. He was graduated from the American Medical College, in which institution he had maintained a high standing among the leading scholars of his class. After getting his diploma he began to practice his profession in Georgetown, Ohio, where he remained till 1864, the skill and success with which he treated difficult cases securing him a large number of patients. In that year he returned to Vermilion County, and purchasing 110 acres of fine farming land in Newell Township has since lived here. For many years he was in active practice, ranking high among the members of the medical profession in this county, but in 1886 he retired from that vocation and has since given his entire time to the improvement and cultivation of his farm. He now owns 153 acres of land, and has erected a substantial set of farm buildings, including a well-appointed dwelling, which is one of the most attractive homes in the vicinity.

Dr. Norris and Miss Martha Norris were united in marriage Jan. 29, 1852, in Brown County, Ohio. She was born in that county Feb. 17, 1827, and was the eldest of the five children of Nathan and Phillis Norris, natives, respectively, of Maryland and Kentucky. They married and settled in Brown County, Ohio, where they passed their remaining years, he carrying on the occupation of a farmer. Dr. and Mrs. Norris are the parents of nine children:

Nathan J. Jr., Emma P., Lizzie D., John M., Eva, Mattie, Luella, William N., Jennie. John M. died when about two years old.

Our subject has been greatly blessed in the possession of a wife of high personal character, much tact and amiability of disposition, at once a helpmate and companion. Their social position is among the best people in the community. The doctor has mingled much in the public life of the township, as his learning and ripe judgment make him a wise counselor. and for five years he has held the important office of Supervisor. He has always manifested a genuine interest in the cause of education, and while serving in the various local school offices has promoted it as much as possible. In politics he is a stanch adherent of the Democratic party.

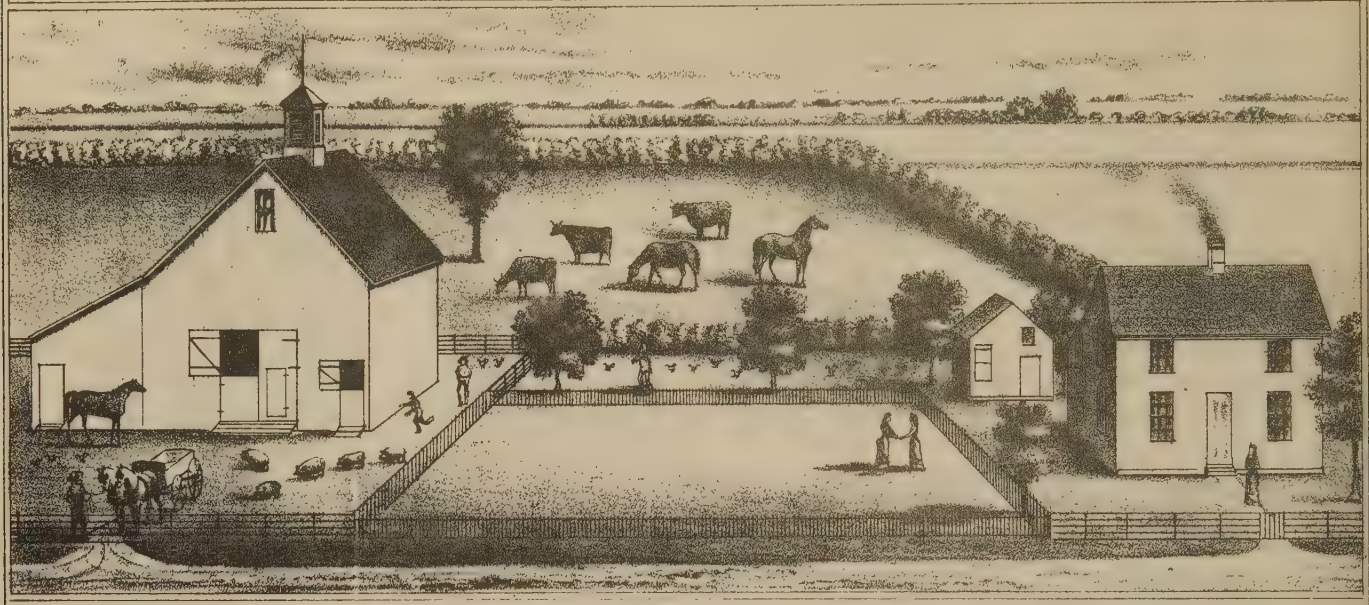
MILTON MILLS, of Carroll Township, a gentleman widely and favorably known in his community, is a scion of one of the pioneer families of this county and he is pardonably proud of the fact that they bore no unimportant part in its early development. They were simple and honest people, Quakers in religious belief, and reared their children to habits of industry and principles of honor, impressing upon their minds the importance of truthfulness, morality and industry.

Mr. Mills has a countenance which indicates the results of his early training, which instilled within him contempt for a mean action, and the love of all which is healthful and broadening, both to the heart and intellect. He is prominent in the circle of Friends in this county and has taken an active part in the Sunday-school carried on by them. His father, William Mills, was one of the leading pioneers of Central Illinois and lived in three different counties without changing his place of residence—all being at one time Edgar County and undergoing subsequent divisions. He had come to Illinois when a young man of twenty years and when this region was a wilderness. He was one of the first men to build a house within the present limits of Vermilion County, and afterwards traveled forty miles to mill in Indiana, driving a four-horse team and occupying several days in making the journey. He transported his live pork on foot to Chicago at a time when Indians and wild animals were plentiful and experienced all the hardships and privations of life on the frontier. He was successful as a tiller of the soil, accumulating a comfortable property and rested from his earthly labors in 1872, passing away at the old homestead in Elwood Township when seventy-four years of age.

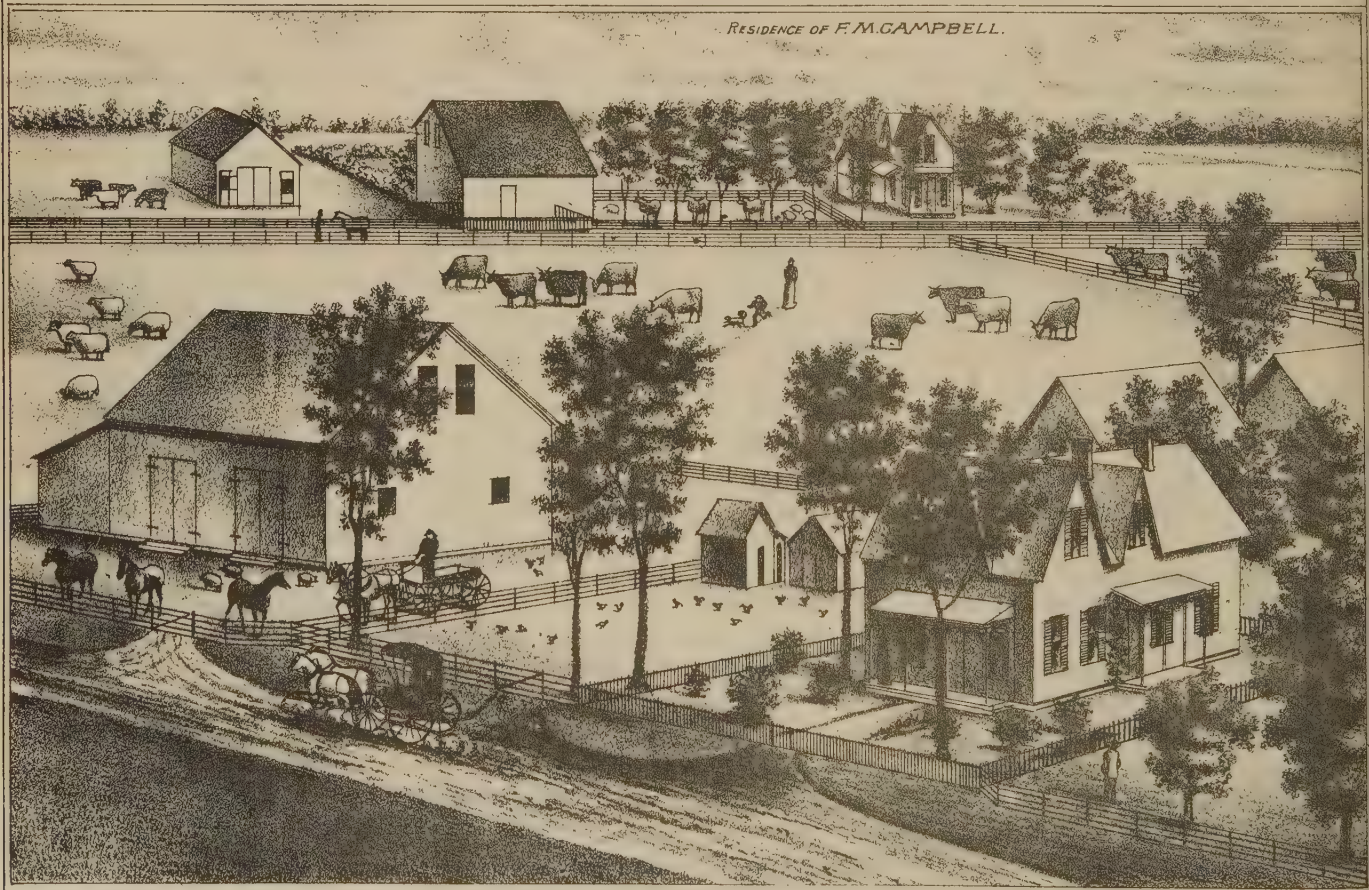
Mrs. Jane B. (Durham) Mills, the mother of our subject, was born in Indiana, where she was reared to womanhood and came to Illinois with her parents. She was married prior to her union with Mr. Mills and became the mother of one child—Dorcas D. Hunt—who married Josephus Hollingsworth and lives in this county. Mr. Mills had also been previously married and had become the father of five children. viz: Adam M., Sarah J., Arminta, Mary A. and Rebecca. To William and Jane B. Mills there were born six children—William D., Emma, Milton, our subject, Pleasant, Milo E. and Everett. The mother died in 1880 at the age of sixty-four years.

The subject of this sketch was born Dec. 1, 1853 in Elwood Township, this county. The first twenty-one years of his life were spent on the farm and in attendance at the district schools. Later he pursued his studies at Vermilion Grove Academy and continued a student there mostly during the winter season for four years, in the meantime improving his leisure time with his books. In November, 29, 1882, he was married to Miss Nora B., daughter of R. W. Ashbrook, of Mattoon, Ill. He purchased his present farm of eighty acres in 1882 and has operated it to such good advantage that the whole is now in a good state of cultivation, there being scarcely a foot of it that does not yield something to the proprietor. The residence is beautifully located three miles southeast of Indianola.

Mrs. Mills was born in Coles County, Ill., Nov. 1, 1857 and by her union with our subject has become the mother of two bright children—Bessie D. and Jane B. Mr. Mills was carefully reared in the Quaker faith and since reaching manhood has become one of the most useful and active members



RESIDENCE OF JOHN COLLINS, SEC. 9., SIDELL TP, VERMILION CO.



RESIDENCE OF MOSES REYNOLDS. SEC. 8. ELWOOD TP, VERMILION CO.

of that church, serving in the double capacity on the Evangelistic Committee, besides Superintendent of the Sunday-school, of which he has been Vice-President likewise for the past three years. He has ever maintained a warm interest in educational matters and besides being one of the most generous patrons of the Vermilion Grove Academy, is serving on the Board of Trustees of said academy. Although strictly a temperance man, he has not thought best to identify himself with the Prohibitionists, but maintains a warm adherence to the Republican faith, believing it not the part of wisdom to encourage a third party in politics. Through the influence of his honored father, Milton while a boy, conceived a strong aversion to the institution of slavery and no man rejoiced more when the land had been purged of it, together with other evils which were remedied by the success of the Union arms.

MOSES REYNOLDS is a leading citizen of Elwood Township. The Society of Friends and the Vermilion Academy, which are located at Vermilion Grove, have in him a liberal supporter and an ardent friend. He donates largely to the support of his church and the educational enterprises connected with it, and the sum of money that he yearly gives away to those who need it more than he, is known to nobody but himself, as he religiously believes in the doctrine of not letting the left hand know what the right hand does. Enough is known of his character to say that his benevolence is proverbial.

Mr. Reynolds owns and operates a fine farm of 290 acres of land on sections 5, 6, and 8, where he carries on an extensive business of stock-raising and diversified farming. He was born in Parke County, Ind., on the 6th of May, 1830. His father, Mahlon Reynolds, was a native of Randolph County, N. C., whence he emigrated to Indiana in 1823, settling first on Honey Creek in Vigo County, six miles below Terre Haute, but in 1826 he removed to Parke County, Ind. He was one of the pioneers of that part of Parke County, and his reputation as a man was of the highest. His wife, Ruth Rubottom, was a daughter of Simon Rubottom, who was the father of twelve children: Joel, Linton, Alvira, Moses, Elizabeth (Mrs. Folger), Mariam (Mrs. Haworth), Mahala (Mrs. Wright), Rachael (Mrs. Smith), Susan (Mrs. Parker), David, Ruth (Mrs. Newlin), and William. The mother of these children died on the old homestead in Indiana in 1866, and the father died in this county ten years later.

Mr. Reynolds came to this county in 1854, settling where he now lives. He is engaged extensively in raising graded Short-horn cattle, and Poland-China and Chester-white hogs. He feeds and ships a great deal of stock, and in this way has become independent. His farm indicates that its owner is a man who understands his business thoroughly, for everything around it shows thrift and intelligence. On the 14th of August, 1851, Mr. Reynolds married Eunice Pearson, daughter of William Pearson, and to them have been born two children: Mary J. and Alvira A. The latter is deceased. Mary is the wife of Marion Campbell, of Elwood Township. They have had three children, one of whom is now living—Paul.

Mr. Reynolds meddles very little in politics, but devotes his spare time to the interests of his church and to the Academy of which he is a Trustee. He is a Trustee of the property of the Friends' Church at Vermilion Grove and holds the position of Overseer in the same society. He is also one of three trustees of the funds of the quarterly meetings that have been set apart for the education of worthy and needy children, and in this position he is eminently the right man in the right place. The fund alluded to originated in the following manner: An unmarried man—Richardson Henderson—died leaving $500 to the Quarterly Meeting for the purposes before described, and Mr. Reynolds added to that sum an equal amount, making a fund of $1000, which is invested, and the interest only is used.

Mr. Reynolds' son-in-law, F. M. Campbell, lives on the farm adjoining him on the east, and owns 194 acres of very fine land. Mr. Campbell is engaged in breeding fine Norman horses, and

his other stock is similar to that raised by his father-in-law. He is also a member of the Friends' Church, and was born in Parke County, Ind., but was brought up and educated in Vermilion County, and has always been a farmer. He and his father-in-law are good Republicans.

Mr. Reynolds is also largely interested in Sunday-school work, where he teaches a class regularly every Sunday. He has also ably served as Sunday-school Superintendent for many years.

On another page of this volume the residence of Mr. Reynolds is presented in a fine view, justly a valuable feature of the ALBUM.

JOHN COLLINS. The Irish-American citizen has operated largely in the growth and development of Vermilion, and he whose name stands at the head of this sketch is one of the most worthy representatives of his nationality. He owns a good farm of 200 acres, lying on sections 9 and 10 in Sidell Township, and has a remarkably pleasant home and intelligent family. He is one of a pair of twins, born in County Cork, Ireland, June 20, 1826. His twin brother, Richard, emigrated to America in 1845, and in due time wrote back for John to join him here, which the latter did; they located five miles south of Boston, Mass., and worked in the foundries seven years. In 1853 they came to La Salle County, this State, and worked on the Illinois Central Railroad several years thereafter. On the 23d of March, 1861, our subject was married to Miss Ann Cregor, born in 1833 in his native country. They settled on a farm in La Salle County, where they lived a number of years, coming thence to this county in 1881. In 1880 our subject had purchased the farm which he now owns and occupies. He also owns 160 acres in Shiloh Township, Edgar County, which is operated by his sons, Dennis and Michael.

There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Collins eleven children, of whom the third and fourth sons have been already mentioned. The others are recorded as follows: Richard married a Miss Brown, and died in 1884. To them there was born one child, now deceased. John is at home with his parents; Dennis married a Miss Burns; Mary married Mr. Brown, a farmer, and they have four children: Leo, John, Charles, and Richard. Daniel, Bridget, Juliana, Margaret, and Ann are at home with their parents. The farm is devoted to general agriculture and is carried on with that thoroughness and good judgment which is characteristic of its proprietor. He has become thoroughly identified with American institutions, and is a man greatly attached to his family.

The parents of our subject were John and Mary (Carty) Collins, likewise natives of County Cork, where they lived on a small farm. Their family consisted of five sons and one daughter, of whom our subject was the third in order of birth. The latter and his estimable wife are members of the Catholic Church at Hume.

A view of the home of Mr. Collins is given in this volume, and represents a well-kept country residence with pleasant rural surroundings.

JAMES McMELLAN, who is one of the most popular men of Carroll Township, is operating the celebrated Woodlawn Farm of 200 acres, where with his excellent wife and his two bright and promising boys, he has one of the pleasantest homes to be found in the county. He is largely possessed of all the manly virtues, being upright, temperate and faithful in the discharge of his duties, both in a business and social way. He is widely known as having been for years the 'right-hand man,' of Mr. Harvey Sandusky, a wealthy and prominent land-owner of this county who for some time employed Mr. McMellan to look after his agricultural interests and his fine cattle. In the discharge of these duties Mr. McMellan had the satisfaction of leading more prize-winners into the show ring at the county and State fairs than any other man in Illinois.

The subject of this notice was born in Greene County, East Tenn., Sept. 17, 1853, and is the son of John D. and Rachel (Rector) McMellan, natives of Tennessee and the father a saddler by

trade. The latter after the death of his first wife, remarried and moved to Missouri where he spent his last days. The mother of our subject died in Greenville, Tenn., at the age of forty years. James R., our subject, was the eldest of her two sons, the younger being John, who is now living in Missouri. Of the second marriage of John D. McMellan there were born four children.

During the Civil War the father of our subject was pressed into the Confederate service and James went to live with his grandfather Rector, in East Tennessee, where he received only limited educational advantages, attending school only a few months at the close of the war. He worked mostly on the farm and finally was persuaded by an aunt to come West. He made his way to Logan County, this State, and worked there two and one half years upon a farm. Then desirous of a change he emigrated to Indianola and entered the employ of Dr. Ralston, with whom he remained one year. In the meantime he formed the acquaintance of Mr. Harvey Sandusky, and in due time assumed charge of his fine cattle, remaining in the employ of this gentleman for a period of ten years. In the meantime, taking with him some of the finest specimens of their fat cattle, he visited the fairs at Lafayette, Indianapolis, Chicago, Kansas City, Peoria, Springfield, St. Louis, Mo., and many other places. A warm attachment sprang up between the two men and Mr. McMellan was at the bedside of his friend, Mr. Sandusky, at the time of his death.

The marriage of James McMellan with Miss Ida Dye was celebrated in Carroll Township, in 1880. Mrs. McMellan is the daughter of John Dye, a son of Lawrence Dye, one of the oldest pioneers of Georgetown Township. Mr. Dye was a man possessing some peculiar traits of character, was a strong Presbyterian in his religious views, was peculiarly kind and genial in his disposition, a great lover of music and a universal favorite in his community. His wife was the daughter of Col. Girard of Mexican war fame and a good man in the broadest sense of the term, strictly, temperate, honest and upright, kind in his family and a generous neighbor. Everybody knew Col. Girard and everybody was his friend.

To the parents of Mrs. McMellan there were born nine children and Miss Ida inherited from her father a great taste for and love of music. It was not the lot of Col. Girard to become wealthy, and when a young girl Miss Ida entered the employ of Mrs. Sandusky, with whom she remained the long period of eleven years, her faithful and trusted maid and companion. She there met her future husband, our subject, and they, living under one roof for many years, had a good opportunity to become acquainted. Of this congenial union there were born two children only—Harvey and James S., who are bright and promising boys aged seven and one years respectively.

Politically, Mr. McMellan is a stanch supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity. His estimable wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It is generally conceded that there is not a more hospitable roof in Carroll Township than the house at Woodlawn Farm, and no host and hostess who extend to their guests a more high-bred and hearty welcome. Neither friend nor stranger departs from their door with other than a comfortable feeling and a sensation that it was good to be there.

ANDERSON DUNAVAN. The labors of this honest, upright and well-to-do citizen have resulted in the possession of a well-regulated farm of 170 acres, on sections 1 and 6, in Georgetown Township. The greater part of this the proprietor cleared from the forest, and labored early and late for many years in order to bring it to its present condition. By the exercise of great industry, frugality and good management, he has accumulated sufficient means to protect him against want in his declining years, while his career as a citizen has been such as to establish him in the esteem and confidence of his neighbors.

The native place of our subject was in Mason County, now West Virginia, eight miles above Point Pleasant, on the Kanawha River. His parents were John and Frances (Hughes) Dunavan, the former a native of Culpeper County, Va., and the

latter of the same place. The mother's people were of English stock, and early residents of Pennsylvania. Her grandfather served in the Revolutionary War, and was shot through the breast. He recovered, however, and lived to be nearly one hundred years old. He was provided for during his old age by a pension from the Government. He traced his ancestry to Ireland, where his forefathers were mostly linen weavers by trade.

The father of our subject, with the exception of the time spent as a soldier in the War of 1812, occupied himself in agricultural pursuits. He and his wife spent their last years in Indiana. They were the parents of eight children, seven of whom grew to mature years—three sons and four daughters. Anderson, our subject, was the eldest, and was born March 22, 1820. He lived in the Old Dominion until a lad of thirteen years, then emigrated with his parents to Indiana, they settling near the State line in Vermillion County, Ind. He remembers the time when there but five houses between Eugene, Ind., and Danville, Ill. As soon as old enough, he was required to make himself useful about the new farm, following the breaking plow, learning to cut wheat with the cradle, and laboring in the primitive style, both in sowing and reaping the harvests. Upon reaching man's estate he was married, May 29, 1844, to Miss Elizabeth Beauchamp.

Mrs. Dunavan was born in Ohio, and removed with her parents to Perryville, Ind., in 1830. The newly wedded pair settled on a farm in Vermillion County, Ind., and Mr. Dunavan in due time purchased 166 acres of land. Later he sold this, and crossed the State line into Illinois, purchasing, in 1855, the farm which he now owns and occupies. Much of this was covered with timber, and he has cleared all but fifteen acres.

The eleven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Dunavan are recorded as follows: James H. died when a promising youth of eighteen years; John A. married Miss Rebecca Mossberger, is the father of four children, and resides in Douglas County; Mary J. married Samuel Hines, and died, leaving three children; Harriet J. died at the age of two years; Charles W., who remains at the homestead, married Miss Anna J. Howard, and is the father of one child; David A., also at home, married Miss Mary Williams, and has three children; Anderson J. married Miss Caroline Cravens, and is the father of three children; Edward H. married Miss Holder, and lives at the homestead; Edmund H. died when three months old; Lottie married Frank Breesley, and is the mother of two children, they live in this township; Tilda E. is the wife of Tillman Wilcox.

James H. Dunavan during the Civil War enlisted in an Indiana Regiment, and died of the measles at home. Mrs. Dunavan is a member in good standing of the Christian Church, and a lady greatly respected in her community. Mr. Dunavan votes the straight Democratic ticket, and has served as School Director in this district several years. He may properly be classed as a representative citizen of Georgetown Township—one who has assisted materially in maintaining its reputation as a community of law-abiding and intelligent people.

GOLDEN PATTERSON. The gratifying success which has crowned the efforts of the life of Mr. Patterson, is the more noticeable and praiseworthy, because of the few opportunities afforded him in the earlier days for that training and other help that are sometimes considered absolutely indispensible to a start in life and the success which is desired. In the case before us, the subject is one of that class of whom many worthy representatives are found in the great West, which is best designated by the term "self-made."

Golden Patterson lives on section 13, range 11, Elwood Township, and was born on the old homestead where he now resides, July 17, 1833. His father, Andrew Patterson, came from Granger County, Tenn., in an early day, settling on a farm which he then located and upon which his son now resides. The country at that time was almost destitute of civilization, and the Indians were practically in possession. They roamed about at will, although the land belonged to the Government. The elder Patterson entered about 500 acres of land, for which he paid the government price,

This land rapidly rose in value, and at this time is worth a great deal of money. His wife, whose maiden name was Amelia Golden, was a daughter of William Golden, a prominent pioneer of Vermilion County.

The subject of this biography is the youngest of six children, five of whom are now living—William, Thomas, Sarah J. (Campbell) of Georgetown, Elizabeth (Campbell) of the same place, and Golden. The mother of these children died when Golden was an infant, and the father passed away in 1845 at the old homestead. Golden received his education at the common schools of his boyhood and at the Georgetown High School. After leaving school he learned the trade of a carpenter, but followed this vocation but a short time. He has always been—with the exception of the short time he worked at the carpenter business—a successful farmer. He owns 420 acres of land where the old homestead is situated and a quarter section in another part of the township, making 580 acres in all. Mr. Patterson manages his farm with rare intelligence, and in all his operations he has been most eminently successful. He takes great care in all the work he does, and therein may be attributed, to a large degree, his success.

He has never held any official position, for the simple reason that he never has time. Politically, he belongs to the Republican party, and may always be found in its ranks doing good work. Mr. Patterson enjoys the confidence and esteem of all his neighbors, and is known by the sobriquet of "The Jolly Bachelor" of eastern Elwood Township.

CHARLES LEONARD DOWNING, a successful farmer, a defender of the Union during the late Civil War, and a true Christian gentleman, occupies a leading position in the community of Georgetown Township, where he has been a resident for a period of twenty years. We find him in comfortable circumstances surrounded by a very interesting family of intelligent children and seemingly in the enjoyment of that which makes life most pleasant and desirable. Of this he is amply deserving, having led an upright life and to the best of his ability seeking to set a good example to those around him. His homestead comprises eighty acres of choice land on section 7, and besides this he cultivates twenty-eight acres in the vicinity. His farm buildings, machinery and live stock are in excellent condition and indicative of the progress and enterprise of the proprietor.

The opening years of the life of our subject were spent in Mason County, Ky., where he was born March 21, 1838. His parents, Robert and Susan (Haw) Downing, were natives respectively of Kentucky and Ohio, the latter born a few miles from the "Beautiful River." They were married in the Buckeye State and lived there and in Kentucky until their removal to Marion County, Ind., to which they removed about 1849. The father opened up a farm from the wilderness, where he spent the remainder of his days, dying in January, 1882, at the age of sixty-six years. The mother still occupies the old homestead and is now about seventy-one years old. Their five children were named respectively, Allie, Lucretia, Charles L., Susan A. and James Robert, who are all living.

Mr. Downing attended the common schools of Ohio and Indiana, and lived with his father on the farm in Marion County, the latter state, until approaching the twenty-second year of his age. In March, 1860, he came to Illinois and engaged to work by the month for William Stevens, in Vermilion County. In December following he returned home and in the spring of 1861 entered the employ of H. H. Hall, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Marion County, Ind., with whom he remained seven years. It is proper to state that he began working out summers when a lad of fourteen. The winter season was devoted mostly to his books, and he attended school during these seasons until after the outbreak of the Civil War, then, desirous of having a hand in the subjugation of the rebels, he enlisted on the 12th of March, 1862, in Company D, 79th Indiana Infantry, and was mustered into service at Indianapolis. He drilled there with his regiment two weeks, and in less than a month after his enlistment met the enemy in the battle at Perryville. He afterward

fought in some of the most important battles of the war, being at Crab Orchard, Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Lookout Mountain, Knoxville and Spring Hill, at which latter place they remained several days before starting on the Atlanta Campaign. On the way thither they encountered the enemy at Buzzard's Gap, Dalton and Resaca, Ga., where on the 27th of May, 1863, they lost 1,400 men in one hour out of the third division of the fourth army corps. Later Mr. Downing was with his comrades at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain (where the father of Mrs. Downing was killed). After the fall of Atlanta, our subject was in the battle of Jonesboro, which ended that campaign. Thence they retraced their steps to follow up the rebel general, Hood, and entered upon one of the most arduous campaigns of the war, which soon afterward came to a close. Our subject was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., in June, 1865, and received his final discharge at Indianapolis the same month. Although he was in all the engagements of his regiment he was never wounded, and with the exception of four days, when he had the mumps, he never lost a roll-call.

Upon retiring from the army Mr. Downing returned to his old haunts in Marion County, where he entered the employ of Mr. H. H. Hall, and three days after laying aside his uniform was cradling in the wheat field. He continued with Mr. Hall until 1868, then returning to Illinois reentered the employ of Mr. Stevens. In the meantime the little orphan girl whose father, Thomas Guess, had been killed in the charge on Kenesaw Mountain, had been legally adopted by Mr. Stevens and had now grown to an attractive womanhood. Our subject in due time made her acquaintance, and the result was a mutual attachment which culminated in their marriage, Sept. 25, 1868, at the home of the bride's adopted father, in Georgetown Township.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Downing settled on the farm which they now own and occupy, and the nucleus of which was purchased in the spring of 1869. In 1871 he added eighty acres and has since given to it his best efforts, bringing the whole to a fine state of cultivation and effecting modern improvements in the way of fences, buildings and the other appliances naturally suggested to the mind of the progressive agriculturist. In the meantime the household circle had been gradually enlarged by the birth of eight children, who were named respectively, Priscilla M., Oscar J., Frank, Susan, Ella, Lottie, Reason E. and Minnie.

Mr. Downing cast his first presidential vote for Douglas, and has since given his unqualified support to the Democratic party. He has served as a Director in his School District, also as Road Overseer. As an ex-soldier he belongs to the G. A. R. Post at Georgetown, No. 204. He finds his religious home in the Christian Church, to which also his wife and daughter, Priscilla, belong, and of which he has been a Deacon ten years and a member twelve years. All those enterprises tending to the best good of the people, socially, morally and financially, have found in him a steadfast friend.

JAMES NEWTON MITCHELL. Perhaps no very thrilling event has transpired in the life of this steady-going and reliable citizen, but he is one of those forming the bone and sinew of his community, and one who has assisted in establishing its financial prosperity, and upholding the standard of morality. His life occupation has been that of a farmer, in which he has been very successful, accumulating a good property and fortifying himself against the days when perhaps he may be found unfitted for labor. His homestead lies on section 12, in Georgetown Township, and with its well-tilled fields, substantial buildings and general air of plenty and comfort, forms a most delightful picture in the landscape of that region.

Our subject first opened his eyes to the light in Brown Township, Montgomery Co., Ind., April 7, 1830, and remained a resident of the Hoosier State until approaching manhood. His education was acquired under the primitive methods, and in the log school-house of that early day, and when a youth of nineteen years he started out for himself, taking a contract to made 5,000 rails at fifty cents

per hundred, the scene of his operations being in Parke County. There also he made the acquaintance of Miss Sarah E. Harlam, a native of that county, and in due time they were married. The spring following they removed to Peoria County, Ill., where they lived eight years, then, in the fall of 1858, returned to Montgomery County, Ind. Sojourning there until the spring of 1861, they returned to Parke County, Ind. Their family now consisted of four children, and the wife and mother died upon the place where she spent her childhood and youth. Four other children had been born and died in the meantime. The eldest daughter, Bashaby R., married William Skinner, and died in 1886, leaving three children—Louis, James Norman, now deceased, and Harriet E. George H., a grocer of Ft. Scott, Kan., married Miss Laura R. Rhuby, and they have two children—Harlam R. and Garnett R.; John F. is a resident of Georgetown Township; he married Miss Cora Pickett, and they have one child, Frederick A.; James D., a resident of Vermillion County, Ind., is a wagonmaker by trade: he married Miss Cora E. Holdeway.

After the death of his wife Mr. Mitchell removed to a farm of eighty acres in Vermillion County, Ind., and on the 28th of September, 1869, was married to Mrs. Mary (Cox) Falls. This lady is the daughter of John Ritchie and Mary (Cox) Ritchie, who were natives of Ohio. The father served in the War of 1812, and subsequently occupied himself as a farmer, carpenter and brickmason. Upon leaving the Buckeye State he settled in Parke County, Ind., where he spent his last days. The parental family consisted of twelve children, ten of whom grew to mature years, viz: Elizabeth, Hester A., Joseph, Melinda, John, Mary, Eleanor, Edward, Jefferson and Robert G.; two died in infancy.

The present wife of our subject was born in Parke County, Ind., and was married in 1859 to Mr. Jesse B. Falls, also a native of that county. They became the parents of three children—Mary E., John E., and Joseph I., and Mr. Falls died in Indiana. Her wedding with our subject took place in Vermillion County, Ind. In 1872 Mr. Mitchell sold his Indiana property and came to Vermilion County, where he is now the owner of two farms, the homestead embracing 166¼ acres. His other farm is forty-seven and one-fourth acres in extent.

Our subject and his estimable wife have by their present marriage four children—Sarah E., Martha A., Cassius L., and Josephine H.,. Mr. Mitchell votes the straight Republican ticket, and has served as Road Master and School Director. He comes from old Kentucky stock, being the son of Gabriel and Ruth (Van Cleve) Mitchell, who were both natives of Shelby County, that State. They were reared and married in the Blue Grass regions, where the father carried on farming until removing to Montgomery County, Ind., in 1827. There he was one of the pioneer settlers. His was the common lot of those who had ventured onto the frontier, and he labored successfully in building up a home in the wilderness. He was three times married, and had by the first wife twelve children, namely: Daniel H., who died in Kankakee County, this State, at the age of sixty-three years; John W., Margery A., Polly B., James N., Martha J., Sally E., Robert L., Minnie (deceased), Amelia S., Nancy, and Melina H. The mother of these children died in 1847, at the age of forty-five years. By his second marriage Gabriel Mitchell was the father of four children, viz: David B., Joseph L., Ruth A. and George B. Of his third marriage there were no children. He removed to Wilson County, Kan., in 1870, and died in 1879.

HENRY MILLS resides on section 3, Elwood Township, and was born on what is known as the Thomas Brown farm, near Vermilion Grove, March 23, 1830. He began life poor but has been eminently successful in building up a competency. He gives one-tenth of his income to the support of the gospel, and for benevolent purposes, a characteristic which entitles him to the name of philanthropist.

Seth Mills, the father of the subject of this sketch was born in Jefferson County, East Tenn., Oct. 10, 1805, and was a son of John and Mary (Davis) Mills, who removed to the Miama Valley, Ohio, in 1806, settling a few miles from Dayton. Seth

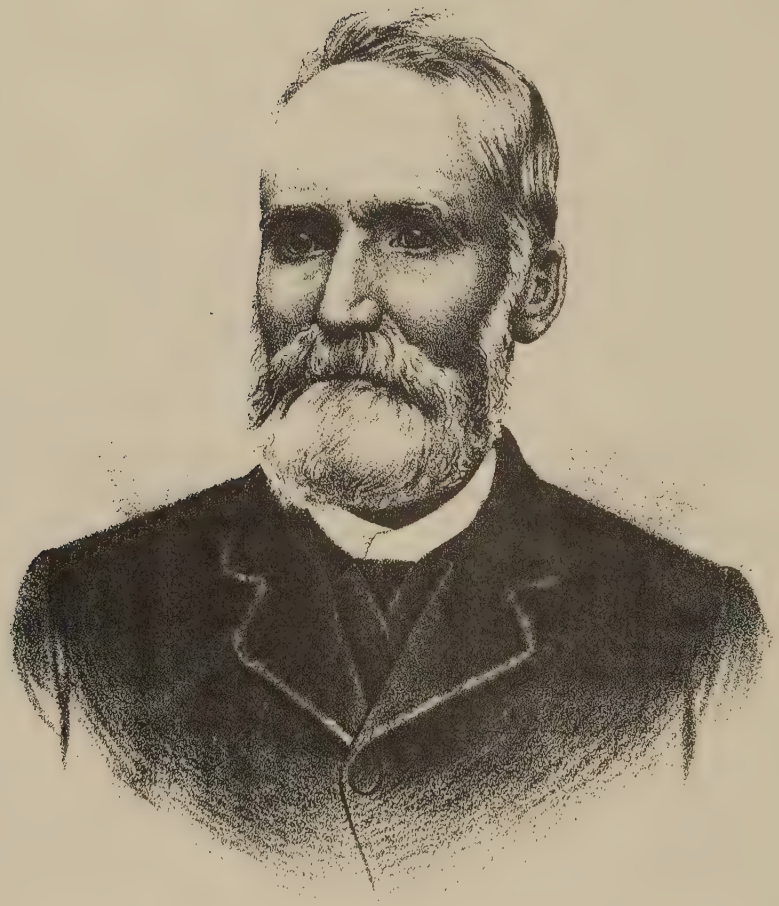
Mills came with his parents to Wayne County, Ind., in 1815, and they were consequently among the very early settlers of that region. At that time there were many Indians roving about, but they were peaceable. The heavy beech timber that covered that country made it difficult to clear the land. The elder Mills, tanned leather and also made the shoes for the family. He married Rebecca, daughter of John and Julatha Canaday on the 21st day of March, 1827, and to this union five children were born, three of whom are living: Irena Haworth, Henry, and Anna M. Haworth. The father came to Vermilion County in the spring of 1828 raising a crop of corn that year. In the autumn he brought his family here, accompanied by John and Herman Canaday and families. An inventory of the effect of the elder Mills when he arrived here, would exhibit that he had one horse, two cows, three calves, a few sheep and fifty cents in money. He bought a horse soon after his arrival, giving 110 days work for it. In 1846 he wrote a short sketch of his life from which the above facts were gleaned. He died in this township on the 19th day of August, 1846, his wife surviving him for many years, dying at her son Henry's house on on the 18th day of July, 1888. This most estimable couple were life-long Quakers, as are all their children. They were rigidly honest and when they left this world, they did not leave an enemy behind them.

Henry Mills received his education at the common schools of Illinois and has always worked hard since he was old enough. All of his life has been spent in this township. He is an Elder in the Quaker Church at Elwood and occupies the important office of "Head of the Church" at that place. On the 10th of November, 1852 he was married to Mary Folger, who was born in Elwood Township also, they are the parents of eight children, seven of whom are living: Aaron, Alpheus, Zimri, Marietta, Matilda, Seth, and Allen G. Alpheus married Matilda Newlin. They are living in the State of Oregon and have four children—Lewis, Ella, Jay, and an infant boy; Zimri married Miriam Newlin, they also reside in Oregon and have two children—Dennis C. and Foster M; Marietta married Levi E. Lewis, they are living on the old homestead with the subject of this sketch, and have two children—Mary E. and Russell; Matilda is the wife of Justin L. Haworth, they are living across the State line in Vermillion County, Ind., and are the parents of two children—Lucy M. and Huber; Lucy is deceased; Seth married Rhoda J. Hester, they live in this township and have one child—Ola R.

Henry Mills owns 336 acres of land, where the old homestead is located, and forty-seven acres in another tract near by. He is engaged in raising stock consisting of Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs. He has been very successful, financially, which is due to his industrious habits and prudent business management. He believes that the Prohibition party is right, and votes the ticket upon which is printed the names of men who believe in temperance principles. There is not a farm in his township upon which are better buildings, and there is none that is in a higher state of cultivation. His wife has been a valuable helpmate to him, and she has done her full share in placing them in the independent position they now occupy.

CAPT. FRANK J. PASTEUR, editor and proprietor of the Ridge Farm *Times*, founded this journal in 1887, and is conducting it with success. He was born near Wheeling, W. Va., Sept. 12, 1838, and came to Illinois with his parents, they settling in Griggsville, Pike County. He is the grandson of Maj. John McElroy of Revolutionary fame. He enlisted in 1862, in Company D, 79th Illinois Infantry, and was wounded in the hip at the battle of Stone River, Dec. 31, 1862.

After recovering from his wound, our subject was assigned to duty by the Secretary of War, in the Inspector General's department, on the staff of Gens. Rosecrans and Thomas, Commanders of the Army of the Cumberland. He participated in the battles of Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw, New Hope Church, Siege of Atlanta, Jonesboro, Franklin, etc. He is an editor and practical printer, and founded the Rossville (Ill.) *Press*, West Lebanon (Ind.) *Gazette*, Meredosia



A. N. Busby

(Ill.) *Commercial*, and has had a large experience as a traveler. He has been nearly all over the United States, and to Canada, Cuba and Mexico, chiefly in the interest of the metropolitan newspapers, and is widely known in the West as a successful newspaper man.

ISAAC N. BUSBY. Among the retired farmers of Fairmount Village, Mr. Busby may be given as a fair sample of the worth and respectability which have so many illustrations in this county —men who have risen from an humble position in life and whose characters have been developed by the force of circumstances; while their innate honesty and integrity enabled them to make for themselves a good record financially and in their business relations. The second in a family of twelve children, Mr. Busby was born Nov. 10, 1822, in Virginia, and when a child of four years was taken by his parents to Madison County, Ind. His childhood and youth were passed amid the wild scenes of life on the frontier, as there were less than 100 people in that county when the Busby family took up their abode there.

The early education of our subject was therefore quite limited, he pursuing his first studies in a log school house, averaging about two months in the year. As soon as old enough his services were utilized upon the new farm, from which he assisted his father in clearing the timber, and remained with his parents until a young man of twenty-three years. He was then married to Miss Sarah Ann, daughter of Edward and Margaret (Volentine) Cotty, Mr. Cotty being a farmer of his own neighborhood and the father of eight children, of whom his daughter Sarah was the fifth in order of birth.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Busby settled upon a farm belonging to the father of our subject, but six months later removed to Pendleton, Ind., where Mr. Busby purchased a half interest in a cabinet shop, and carried on this business for five years. Then selling out he changed his residence to Miracleville, where he purchased a store of general merchandise, and conducted this two years.

Selling out once more he came to this county, in 1853, and purchased a farm in Catlin Township. He sold this in 1858 and bought another in Carroll Township, to which he removed, and still owns the property. In 1858 he came to the farm which he now occupies and which comprises 320 acres of choice land, nearly all under cultivation. He has given some attention to stock-raising, and rather prefers it to general farming, although perhaps in the latter he has met more uniformly with success.

Mr. and Mrs. Busby are the parents of a fine family of children, eight in number, and all living. The oldest, Thomas W., married Miss Amy Ford, is the father of four children, and lives in Adair County, Iowa; Alice is the wife of Franklin Swisher, of Carroll Township, and they have one child; Horace C. left home some years ago, and is in the great West; Mary L. is the wife of William Carrington, of Carroll Township, and they have three children; Margaret married Charles Cox, lives in Fairmount and is the mother of one child; John E. married Miss Birdie Turner, and they occupy the home farm; they have no children. Ira M. and Carrie are unmarried and remain with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Busby left the farm in 1886, and now occupy a pleasant and attractive little home in Fairmount, near that of the well-known Dr. J. W. Turner. Mr. Busby owns two and one-half acres of land within the corporation, and is generally well-to-do, having no cause for anxiety as to life's comforts in his declining years. Both he and his estimable wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and have been very active workers in the Sunday-school. Socially, Mr. Busby belongs to Fairmount Lodge, No. 590, A. F. & A. M.

Our subject for the last eighteen years has been Township Trustee. Politically he is quite conservative, and has a due appreciation of the privileges of the voting citizen, which are too often held in light esteem. During his early manhood he belonged to the old Whig party until its abandonment, in 1856. He was not an admirer of John C. Fremont, the Presidential candidate of the

newly-formed Republican party, neither could he conscientiously vote for James Buchanan, the candidate of the Democracy. Scarcely knowing how to escape from the dilemma in which he found himself, he and an ardent Democratic neighbor finally paired off and decided to dig potatoes all day in their adjoining fields, and if either one jumped upon a horse and left, the other one was to go and vote. They dug industriously all day, and as a consequence neither voted at that election. From that time Mr. Busby has voted the Republican ticket.

The father of our subject was John Busby, a native of Monroe County, Va., and who married Miss Phebe Boggess, likewise born in the Old Dominion. Grandfather Busby was a native of Virginia and the great-grandfather was born in England. On the mother's side Grandfather Boggess traced his ancestry to Scotland. The parents of our subject were reared and married in their native State, where they lived until 1826. They then emigrated to Madison County, Ind., where the father entered 240 acres of land and where he sojourned for a period of twenty-seven years, enduring the toils and vicissitudes of pioneer life. In 1853 he came to this county and purchased 160 acres of land in Catlin Township. After putting in one crop he returned to the Hoosier State for his family, removing them here in 1854. They lived in a log house a number of years, and in the meantime labored in the opening up of the farm, their industry and perseverance meeting with success. The elder Busby accumulated a good property, becoming quite an extensive land-owner. He rested from his earthly labors in 1880, and his name is held in kindly remembrance by all who knew him as having been a useful man in his community, and one who ever sought its best interests. The mother survived her husband until 1887, passing away in Winterset, where the father also died. Six of their twelve children are still living and making their homes mostly in Illinois and Iowa.

Mrs. Busby was born in Wayne County, Ind., May 23, 1826, and there spent the days of her childhood and youth. She obtained her education in the same manner as her husband, under the primitive system of instruction in the log school house, and became familiar with all useful household duties which fitted her for the careful wife and mother who has looked after the family industriously and conscientiously, and who labored equally with her husband in the building of their homestead and the accumulation of property.

Thomas W. Busby, the eldest son of our subject, entered the army as a drummer, during the late Civil War, before he was sixteen years of age. Through some misunderstanding he was not regularly enlisted, but he served all through the war as a private soldier in Company E, 73d Illinois Infantry, participating in every battle in which this gallant regiment engaged. For two years he never missed a roll call, but suffered later considerably from illness. He remained with his regiment, however, and with it received his honorable discharge, having escaped wounds and capture by the enemy. His experience was similar to that of the common soldier who suffered hardship and privation uncomplainingly while he never lacked in bravery, being always found at his post when able, and prepared to accept whatever fate should befall him.

The many friends of Mr. Busby will welcome with pleasure the valuable addition to the ALBUM in a fine portrait of him whose life has been passed among them as a book, the open pages of which all might turn and read.

SAMUEL P. DONOVAN. Although for many years past engaged in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture, the subject of this notice will be remembered by a large proportion of the old residents of this county, as one of Kit Carsons' fifty-two Invincibles who distinguished themselves by their explorations in New Mexico and Arizona in 1861. The romantic history of that enterprise and the men who conducted it is almost synonomous with the history of this country. There are, however, but comparatively few living of the valiant spirits who took their lives in their hands and ventured into a savage country, far beyond the bounds of civilization.

Mr. Donovan, one of the bravest of these, made for himself an honorable record. After the close of the war he turned his attention to farming, and has now one of the finest homes in Carroll Township. This is presided over by a very estimable lady, Mrs. Donovan being endowed with more than ordinary intelligence, and one who enjoys in a large measure the esteem of all who know her. They are the parents of four children, named: Luella, William O., Emma E. (deceased) and Eva A.

A son of one of the earliest pioneers of this county, our subject was born on Stone Creek about two miles north of Danville, Aug. 27, 1829. It will thus be seen that he is among the oldest living natives within its precincts. Born and reared amid the wild scenes of pioneer life, he grew up healthy in mind and body, acquiring a limited education in the log school-house of those times, and being harnessed into work at an early age. When sixteen years old he left home and was employed on a farm by the month until 1861, then seized with the California gold fever he crossed the Rocky Mountains to Pike's Peak, starting on foot and alone to Fairmount, where he took the train to St. Louis and thence proceeded via the Missouri River to Omaha. At this point a company of eighteen equipped themselves with wagons and mules, intending to start on a land-exploring trip. After traveling over Southeastern Nebraska and Northeastern Kansas, the whole company finally set out across the plains from Ft. Leavenworth to Denver, being forty-one days on the road. Thence they proceeded to Golden City, where young Donovan worked by the day for two weeks, then started over the range, wading in snow, in June, until he came to Blue River.

At the above-mentioned point there was considerable excitement concerning the prospects in California, and Mr. Donovan proceeded thither. Taking a claim he went to mining in the snow about July 1, then sold out and pocketed the snug sum of $1,600 as his share of the profits for two months. We next find our hero on the way to the San Juan Mountains. At Taos, N. M., the party stopped to lay in a store of provisions and then fell in with Kit Carson, who was organizing a company for the purpose of going to the southwestern part of Arizona. Young Donovan eagerly embraced the opportunity to join the expedition, and they were soon proceeding on their long and perilous trip. They traveled through the country of the Navajo Indians, where no white man had ever ventured before and met with many exciting incidents, fighting with the savages and only losing one individual, a Dutchman, who through mistaken bravery exposed himself unnecessarily and was shot through by an arrow.

Kit Carson is described by Mr. Donovan as being one of the best natured and most kindly disposed men it was ever his fortune to meet. His life on the frontier had naturally made him somewhat rough at times in his manner and conversation, but at heart he possessed the elements of true manhood. The company explored the country along the Colorado and Gila rivers and in Southern California, breaking up at Ft. Garland, whence they returned to Colorado, our subject and twelve others returning by the same route on which they went out. They engaged in mining at Buckskin Joe, forming a company and working on the Phillips lead and sinking all the money they possessed with poor results.

Next Mr. Donovan proceeded to Denver and Central City, where he commenced working by the day, and was thus occupied nine months, making $8 per day. He then invested a portion of his capital in No. 3 Nottaway Lead, which he and his partner worked until they made $25,000 in about six months. Being satisfied with this Mr. Donovan decided to return to Illinois and soon afterward was married, Sept. 10, 1865, to Miss Lydia Stunkard. Shortly afterward he purchased his present farm of 188 acres in Carroll Township. Of this union there were born no children, and Mrs. Lydia Donovan died after eight years of married life.

Our subject in due time contracted a second matrimonial alliance with Miss Sarah Jane, daughter of William Pollard, of whom mention is made in the sketch of Charles Hull on another page in this volume. The Pollards are of English descent and for many generations have been noted for their mechanical genius. The mother of Mrs. Donovan was in her girlhood Mary Ann Bartel, and was the offspring of a noted English family who emigrated

to America at an early period. Her father built the first steam saw-mill along the southern line of this county, and for years thereafter operated as a millwright and wheelwright. Mrs. Donovan, a very estimable lady, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject, politically, has voted with the Republican party since its organization. After voting for John C. Fremont, the first Republican candidate for President, Kit Carson declared that if he should live to be more than a hundred years old he would never vote for so good a man as Fremont. While Mr. Donovan was in the mountains his wife was in her native England. She was born in Yorkshire, where she attended a private school, and was a girl of fourteen years when coming to America. Her father had visited this country twice before his family joined him in this county. He crossed the Atlantic seven times prior to his death, which took place in 1886, when he was sixty-five years old. The mother, now a lady of sixty-eight years, is still living and makes her home in Indianola. Their five children were named respectively, Paul, John, Sarah J., Peter and Martha A. Mr. Donovan has served as School Director for a number of years, and has always signalized himself as a public-spirited and liberal-minded citizen, giving the right of way to the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, and contributing in other directions to the best interest of the county.

The parents of our subject were James and Mary (Perkins) Donovan, natives of Bourbon County, Ky., where they were reared and married. They came to Illinois in 1828. The father when a youth of sixteen years served in the regular army under Gen. Andrew Jackson as private in a Kentucky company. After coming to this county he was employed in the salt works near Catlin; he also hauled quantities of produce to Chicago and transported produce down the river to New Orleans. After a life of industry and many hardships he departed hence when about sixty-years old. The mother died in 1861, at the age of sixty-six years. They were the parents of fifteen children, three of whom died in infancy. The others were named respectively, Joseph, Rebecca, William (deceased), James, Cornelius, Martha, Richard, Samuel Porter our subject, Sarah J., Arthur C., Jerry, Mary, Louisa, Nellie, and Robert, deceased. The paternal grandfather was born in Ireland, and was there married to a maiden of his own county. Upon coming to America they settled in Kentucky where they spent their last days. Grandfather Joseph Perkins was a native of England and was married in Kentucky to a lady who was born in Scotland.

ROBERT W. FISK. This bright and promising young attorney is the eldest son of James W. and Sarah A. Fisk, and although only admitted to the bar May 8, 1884, has already gained an enviable reputation as a member of the legal fraternity and made many friends among the people of this county, especially in Ridge Farm, to which he came soon after completing his law course. He is possessed of a worthy ambition to excel, and devotes much careful study to the various knotty questions which are constantly arising in connection with his profession, aided by an ample library, to which he is gradually adding as time and opportunity permit. He has fair prospects for the future and numbers of friends who are watching his career with kindly interest.

Our subject was born at Melrose, Clark County, this State, Nov. 7, 1858, and attended the common school during the days of his boyhood and youth. He at an early period in his life evinced an interest in common law, and in September, 1883, entered the law department of the Michigan University at Ann Arbor, where he studied until March, 1884. Then returning to Melrose he sojourned there until being admitted to the Indiana bar, May 8, 1884. On the 8th of May, 1888 he was admitted to practice in the courts of Illinois. He was elected Police Magistrate of Ridge Farm in April, 1887, for a term of four years, and at the Republican District Convention in 1888, received twenty-five votes for Representative out of the fifty-four required for nomination. He officiates as Notary Public, and is building up a practice which is steadily increasing in extent and importance, and has recently been appointed Deputy States Attorney for this county.

Mr. Fisk has set a worthy example for his young

men associates, being an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and giving his unqualified support to those enterprises set on foot for the purpose of elevating the social status of the community where he is destined to make his mark. He was for one year Captain of Charles A. Clark Camp, No. 77 Sons of Veterans, and is at present First Sergeant in that body. He possesses business qualifications of no mean order, and is a general favorite both in the social and business circles. He remains unmarried. As an orator he is exceptionally eloquent and forcible, and invariably brings his oratorical powers to his support when arguing questions before the courts.

WILLIAM MILLER. In that day when freedom shall make up the muster roll of her heroes, none on the majestic list shall meet with greater honor than those who, when the Secessionists sought to force our flag from its proud place, sprung to its aid. The farmer boy, the student, the wealthy, all touched shoulders and marched, suffered and died, that we might have a land undivided, free and prosperous. It will be an unpropitious day for this country when it forgets to sing the praises of her noble defenders. Let history make a record of the fact that the man whose name heads this sketch was one of those who dared to do, when that act meant something, and when the dark clouds of adversity and war hovered over our fair land.

William Miller is a retired farmer of Indianola. His father and mother, James and Ruth (Weiley), both died when William was young, and of whom he has no recollection. At the time of their death there were but two children in the family—Squire and William, the former going to Missouri in about 1834, and when the Mexican War broke out he enlisted, and that was the last Mr. Miller heard of him. William was born March 15, 1816, in Giles County, Va. His ancestors were leading people in the Colonies, and his grandfather Weiley was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. Soon after his mother's death William was thrust upon the world to do for himself, and so his young life was spent in struggling to obtain a livelihood. The most of this period of his life was spent on a farm, and at the age of seventeen he came to Vermilion County, without money and without friends. He was endeavoring to work his way to Missouri, where his brother was then living, but inducements were laid before him that were strong enough to keep him here, where he worked continuously for three or four years. He made his first trip on a flatboat to New Orleans in 1842, having rafted on the Ohio before. At this time he was a man grown, and a strapping fellow of six feet three and a half, weighing 220, and fully calculated, physically, to make his way in the world. He made three trips to New Orleans, and then abandoned the river. He rented a farm for several years, after which he came to Carroll Township, in 1845, in which year he was married to Miss Mary George, who was born in Hamilton County, Ohio. In 1857 he removed to Indianola, and two years later went to Kansas, where he purchased 160 acres of land, intending to permanently remove there the next year. At this time the struggle was going on in Kansas that was to determine whether that State was to be free or slave, and society was so unsettled that he gave up his plan of making that his home.

When the war broke out, in 1861, he enlisted in Comyany D, 25th Illinois Infantry, and was mustered in at Danville. His regiment proceeded to St. Louis, remaining at that place for a fortnight, when it was ordered to Jefferson City for drill. It then went to Springfield, Mo., thence south and back again to the latter place, when they were ordered to Rolla, where the regiment spent its first winter. In the following March the orders came to go to Springfield again, whence the regiment proceeded to Pea Ridge and there engaged in its first fight. Mr. Miller was also in the following battles: Corinth, Champion Hills, Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Noonday Creek, Pinetop Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, Chattahoochee, Peach Tree Creek and Atlanta. This is a brilliant record. By reason of the expiration of his term of service he was discharged at Atlanta. During the entire term of enlistment he had been

home on furlough but once to see his wife and children.

In 1865 Mr. Miller went to Montana, making the journey with a wagon. His trip embraced Washington, Oregon and Idaho, touching the British Possessions. He retnrned in 1867, rich in experience, if in nothing else. Being a good shot, he enjoyed hunting in the mountains. About the last of September the mines would close, when he would shoulder his rifle and go into the mountains in pursuit of bear, buffalo, deer, and antelope, and he has killed as high as fifteen deer in one day. Since he has returned he has devoted himself to money-getting, and success has been his.

On March 6th, 1889, his good wife died at the age of seventy, leaving five children, whose record is given: John W. enlisted in the Union Army, and died at Griffin, Ga., in 1865; Sarah E., married John H. Grimes, of Villa Grove. He died in 1889, and was the father of three children—Gordon, Maud and Roy; Mary C. is the wife of Van Mitchell, a resident of Sidell and an ex-soldier. They have five children—Minnie, William, Pearl, Walter, and Nellie; Winfield lives at Sidell; Lucy is the wife of Allen Spicer, a farmer of Carroll Township, and has one child, Benjamin Harrison.

Mr. Miller is a Republican from principle. He voted for William Henry Harrison in 1840, and for Benjamin Harrison in 1888. He has never sought office, but adheres to his party at all times. Mr. Miller is one of the citizens of Vermilion County who is respected by his neighbors, and all those with whom he is acquainted.

THEODORE MATKIN, an extensive handler and shipper of live stock, is one of the best known men in this county. He handles more cattle than any other dealer in Carroll Township and is exceedingly popular with the farmers. He was born in this township on June 22, 1842, where he grew to manhood and gained his present proud position in the esteem of those who know him best.

His father and mother, William and Mary (Sandusky) Matkin, were early settlers of this county. The father was born in Kentucky and came to Illinois in 1835, then a young man of twenty years. He engaged in the mercantile business at Grandview, and while there became acquainted with his future wife. His life was not to be spared long, however, for in about three years after his marriage he died at the age of twenty-seven years, leaving two children: Theodore, and Mary, now Mrs. Baird. The mother remained a widow for some time, then she married Samuel Baum, and by this union four children became men and women: Frank, Winchester, America and May.

Theodore Matkin has no recollection of his father, and when his stepfather died he was but eighteen years of age, after which he assumed the management of the Baum farm of 1,500 acres. He remained at home caring for his mother and the children. During the war he prospered, as the products of his farm were in great request and at exorbitantly high prices. His education was limited to his attendance upon the public schools, but he has been a constant reader and is always seeking knowledge of the substantial sort. The cattle business comes naturally to him. He herded stock while but a mere boy and grew up among the cattle. At the age of twenty-two years, in 1864, he was married to Sallie E., daughter of William and Sarah (Weaver) Raney. Her father was born near Flemingsburg, Ky., and by occupation was a farmer. He served his country during the Mexican War. The mother was also a native of the same State and was a widow when she married Mr. Raney. Her first husband, James Culbertson, left four children when he died: William, Edward, Amanda and John. Edward enlisted in the army at the same time his stepfather did and went to Mexico. Mrs. Matkin was a little girl of five or six when they enlisted, and recalls how her father entreated her to be a good girl and how he promised when he returned to bring her some presents; but he never returned. The mother, in 1850, came to Vermilion County, where in 1852, at the age of fifty-one years, she passed away, universally beloved as a kind neighbor and a perfect mother. She kept her family together until her death. She had three children by her last marriage: John,

Thomas and Sarah E. Thomas served in the late war and died in New Orleans; John went to Iowa when a boy of twenty years, where he married and soon after died.

Mrs. Matkin was born in Edgar County, Ill. Coming to Georgetown she made her home with her sister, Mrs. John Grace, and thus she came to attend the same school as her future husband did. Cupid did effective work in a log school-house this time. Mr. and Mrs. Matkin continued on the Baum farm three years after their marriage, when they removed to Chicago at the time the great Union Stock-yards were first opened. The purpose of this removal was to enter the live stock commission business, but not liking it there, his next venture was in the dry-goods trade at Indianola, remaining in that business three years. During all this time his ideas were centered upon the stock-dealing, and so he sold out his dry-goods and inaugurated the business of farming and dealing in cattle. He shipped his stock largely to Buffalo, N.Y., where he became acquainted with C. F. Reynolds, and in 1872 he formed a union with him under the firm name of C. F. Reynolds & Co., and for twleve years they transacted an extensive business in Buffalo, where their main office was located. In the stock business Mr. Matkin has handled millions of dollars, sometimes paying out from $50,000 to $100,000 per week; but unwisely a third partner was taken into the firm, and they failed for $30,000. The debts, however, were paid off dollar for dollar, although everything Mr. Matkin had was sold under the hammer, even to his private horses and carriage. It took about five years to pay their debts, but the firm kept on doing business and eventually won the fight. In 1884 Mr. Matkin retired from business and came back to Indianola. During his business career in Buffalo he became quite well acquainted with the law firm of Cleveland & Bissell, and he says he found the ex-President an honest lawyer. On the whole, Mr. Matkin has been successful in his life work. He is now living in his elegant home, well provided with everything calculated to round out his honorable life. With music and children around him, he is happy. Jessie, his little daughter, was born in Buffalo, Feb. 10, 1880, while Susan first saw the light in Indianola, Feb. 28, 1885. He is at present engaged some in buying and shipping stock to Buffalo, Chicago, Indianapolis and the East.

Mr. Matkin is a Republican, but party ties rest lightly upon him. Whenever the opposition nominates a man he likes, he breaks through the lines of his party and votes for whom he thinks to be the best man — as, for instance, he voted for Cleveland, a personal friend of his, for Governor.

ELDER URIAH FOLGER. There is no other religious organization that embraces a greater number of consistent, true and devout Christians than that of the Friends' Church. It is proverbial that the people of this denomination have done more to inculcate simple honesty than any other of equal numbers. When William Penn came to this country the natives had possession of the most of it, and they were distrustful of the whites. They had been deceived and studiously imposed upon, and had come to think that all white men were bad. But when this simple Quaker told them what he would do they believed him, for the sect to which he belonged was known to them as people incapable of deception. A treaty was made, based upon the honor of the great founder of Pennsylvania, and its provisions were religiously kept. It is a lamentable fact that before that time the contracts made with the Indians were drawn up with a view of being broken. Thus the Quakers were largely instrumental in settling the difficulties that existed between the whites and the Indians, and the foundations for a great State were therefore laid. All honor to the Society of Friends.

Uriah Folger is an Elder in the Friends' Church and a typical Quaker. He was born in Elwood Township April 23, 1834. His father, Asa, a native of North Carolina, came to this county in 1831, settling in the Elwood neighborhood. He carried on the business of tanning and shoemaking for many years, and did the work for the settlers who lived for miles around. He employed at times

four or five men, and as a business man he prospered. He was one of the best of men. His wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Uriah Starbuck. This worthy couple were the parents of ten children: Walter, Erasmus, Matilda Haworth, Lydia, John, Mary, Sarah, Rachael and Thomas. Thomas, the youngest, is forty-nine years old. The father and mother died in 1850 and 1880 respectively.

Uriah Folger received his primary education at the common schools, and later he attended the Bloomingdale Academy, where he studied under Prof. Hobbs. He was an apt scholar and therefore received a good education. On Nov. 10, 1858, he was married to Edith C. Dillon, daughter of Laban and Jane (Holliday) Dillon, both deceased. The former died when Edith was an infant, while the mother passed away in 1859. This worthy couple had many traits of character that endeared them to their neighbors, and their death was mourned by all their acquaintances. Mr. and Mrs. Folger never had any children. He owns twenty acres of land in Elwood Township and 640 acres in Crosby County, Tex., and also a town lot in Marriette, Tex.

Mr. Folger was reared in the faith of the Quaker Church, while his wife united with that most excellent denomination at the age of fifteen years. He is an exhorter of considerable note in his church, and devotes the most of his time to that work. He is eminently successful in his labors to make the world better, and those who know him best are his most ardent admirers. Mr. and Mrs. Folger never weary in doing good, and the respect in which they are held by their neighbors is well earned.

LEWIS ALLEN REID. It has been custom ary to speak of men who have raised themselves to honorable positions in life without the aid of wealth, as self-made men. There is much less significance in this expression than people suppose who use it. It would seem to imply that there were some men who are not self made, that they were made by others, and that the qualities necessary to render the man successful in life need not be acquired but might be conferred. Such is not the case. All men who are made are self made, and there is no exception, for it cannot be otherwise. In whatever department one may enter, if he desires success he must achieve it. There is no short cut, no patent process. It is work that makes men, and that work must be done by the man himself who would be made. Hard work has made Lewis Allen Reid what he now is in the estimation of his fellows.

Mr. Reid was born in Vermillion County, Ind., Oct. 26, 1846. His father, David Reid, was a native of Mason County, Ohio, and came to Vermillion County, Ind., in 1837, with his parents when a small boy. He removed to Elwood Township in 1848, where he died April 7, 1865. His wife was Eleanor, daughter of John Whitlock, a prominent pioneer of the same township. She was born in Kentucky and came to Illinois when she was a little girl. She was the mother of eight children, seven of whom are now living. Lewis A., of whom this sketch is written; Cynthia Henderson, Thomas, Lance L., Laura Glick, Eliza Trimble and Rosa Campbell.

Lewis A. Reid was primarily educated at the common schools and finished his education at the Georgetown High School. He taught two years in this township, two terms of which were in his home district, and two in district No. 4. He was a soldier in the late war, having enlisted in Company E, 135th Illinois Infantry. He served a term of four months, his regiment being only called out for 100 days. On May 7, 1865, Mr. Reid married Anna, daughter of Wright Cook. The latter was a pioneer of Elwood Township. He emigrated from North Carolina to Illinois in 1825, locating here when the Indians and wild animals held almost undisputed possession of the country. His wife, whose maiden name was Rachael Maxwell, was a native of Knoxville, Tenn. Mr. and Mrs. Cook had twelve children, eight of whom still survive: Elam, of Tuscola, Ill., Keziah, Mrs. Rudd, of Elwood Township; Hugh, of Springfield, Mo.; Thomas, Asa, of Elwood; Sarah, Mrs. Patterson, of Montgomery County, Kan.; Mrs. Reid and Rachel Thompson, both of Elwood. Two of the children died after they had attained maturity, viz.; Elizabeth, Mrs. Smith, who left a husband and four children, and

Joel, who died at the age of twenty-two. Mrs. Reid was born in Elwood, July 21, 1844.

Mr. Reid located on his present farm in the fall of 1865, where he owns and operates 110 acres of land. He is engaged in raising graded cattle, Clydesdale and Norman horses and Poland-China and Berkshire pigs. Politically, he belongs to the Republican party. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Yankee Point, and in the Sunday-school he is a great worker, where he has been Superintendent or teacher for the past ten years. He is also a member of the G. A. R. Mrs. Reid is a consistent member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and an incident will exhibit that she came from plucky stock. Her mother rode on horseback and drove a cow all the way from Tennessee to Union County, Ind., where the family resided for a time.

JOHN MAKEMSON, one of the good farmers of his neighborhood, is a native of Kentucky, born on the 22d day of February, 1821. He was reared in Harrison, in that State, and he married Amanda Adams, daughter of Samuel and Nancy Adams, who were also natives of Kentucky. Their marriage occurred on Christmas Day, 1848, after which they settled on a farm two miles south of their present location.

This couple are the parents of five children: William T.; Hannah, wife of Lester Leonard; Nancy, wife of John Clapp; Arena P., wife of Robert Phillips; Perry is at home. Mr. Makemson owns 900 acres of good land, and he can justly say that every cent he has accumulated has been through his own exertions. His biography, could space be given for its details, would prove truth as strange as fiction, inasmuch as it would be pregnant with examples of courage and will-power that compel circumstances to shape themselves to events, and would show the ambitious youth of today that notwithstanding poverty, and the misfortunes of a neglected education, a boy however poor can rise as high as his ambition can carry him. In listening to the life story of Mr. Makemson, we would hear enough to teach us that however discouraged we may be, there is always hope and assurance that labor and faith will eventually conquer.

Politically Mr. Makemson votes the Republican ticket, though he does not care for the active life of the politician, but goes to the polls and deposits his ballot for the candidates of his party, believing in the wisdom of the leaders, and he is generally right. His family worships at the Methodist Church, and are reckoned among the devout and consistent Christians of the neighborhood. When the roll of good citizens is made up, the person of whom this brief biography is written, will stand in the list as one of the best.

WESLEY ELLIOTT is a modest and unassuming man, devoted to his home and family. As a farmer and stock-raiser, he has been eminently prosperous. He owns a farm, which is highly cultivated, of 143 acres on section 26, on the Harrison Purchase, Elwood Township. He was born in Wayne County, Ind., Nov. 12, 1848. His father, Nathan, was a native of North Carolina, and came to Vermilion County in December, 1854, settling in Elwood Township, one mile and a half southwest of the Ridge.

Mr. Elliott received his primary education at the public schools, but desiring to better himself in an educational way, he attended Bloomingdale Academy, where, by his studious habits and his determination to win, he acquired a good education. He has always been a farmer, and has ascertained the fact that the more intelligence a man possesses the better farmer he is; that labor can be lightened by reading—something that in the generation before him would have been laughed at. But this is a progressive age, and in nothing has there been more progression than in agriculture. Within the last forty years all of the substantial improvements in agricultural machinery have been made, and now it is possible to operate a farm with one-half the labor that was required in the last generation.

On the 11th of February, 1875, Mr. Elliott was

married to Rebecca J., daughter of James Mendenhall, who emigrated from Hamilton County, Ind., to Illinois in 1858. He was a prominent citizen, a man very much respected by everybody, and at the time of his death was considered well-to-do. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott are the parents of three children—Otis M., Lulu G., and Annie M. Wesley Elliott's mother, Naomi Mendenhall, was a lady noted for her charitable works and many lovely traits of character. She was the mother of eight children, seven of whom are living: Henry C., Annie, Mrs. Rork; Wesley, Alvin, Clayton B., Mary E., Mrs. Stogsdill; and Delphinia, Mrs. Lynch. The father was married twice, his first wife being Miss Elizabeth Maxwell, and by her he had three children, but one of whom is now living—John. Mrs. Elliott's mother, Rebecca (Campbell), was the mother of ten children, five of whom are living: Priscilla, Mrs. Patten; Ira C., Ryan G., Rhoda C., Mrs. Ankrum and Mrs. Elliott. They are worthy adherents of the Society of Friends.

Mr. Elliott is engaged in mixed farming and stock-raising, a calling which has been a success with him. He handles and feeds nothing but the best kind of stock, and is always ready to try any new improvement that will forward the work of agriculture, and has any merit at all in it. He believes that the Republican party is the one to which this country must look for its reforms, and, while he never seeks office, has held many local positions, which he has invariably filled with ability. Being of the Quaker persuasion, that fact is guarantee enough of the stability of his character, and shows that his neighbors can trust him in any position in which he is placed.

WILLIAM JASPER OLEHY, an ex-soldier of the Union Army and one of the best-known residents of Georgetown Township, is the proprietor of a snug farm of seventy-eight acres on section 18, where he has effected good improvements and is in the enjoyment of a comfortable home. He was born in Danville Township, Vermilion County, July 24, 1840, and was reared upon his father's farm, attending the common school a short time—only six months—and then commenced in earnest the battle of life. He worked out by the month until after reaching his majority and after the outbreak of the Civil War, enlisted, July 17, 1862, for three years, or during the war, in Company A, 125th Illinois Infantry, under the command of Capt. Ralston. He was mustered in at Danville where they drilled three weeks and were then ordered to the front, going to Covington, Ky. via. Cincinnati, Ohio.

Our subject first met the enemy in battle at Perryville, next at Nashville, Murfreesboro and at Chattanooga; after this followed the march to Knoxville, whence they returned to Chattanooga and soon afterward entered upon the Atlanta campaign. In the meantime the regiment was assigned to the 14th Army Corps under command of Gen. Thomas and with Sherman marched to the sea. Their mission ended in the Southeast they repaired to Washington, D. C., were present at the grand review, May 22-25, 1865, and were mustered out. He received his honorable discharge in Chicago, June 29, 1865.

Returning now to the farm, Mr. Olehy occupied himself in agricultural pursuits and in a sawmill east of Danville until his marriage. This interesting event occurred in 1870, the bride being Miss Mary A., daughter of William and Mary (Glaze) Olehy. The young people settled in Pilot Township, where our subject was engaged in farming until 1881, then purchased his present homestead. Of this first marriage there were born two children—Annie R. and Mary E., and the mother died in 1880. Mr. Olehy votes the straight Democratic ticket. He has had very little to do with public affairs, avoiding the responsibilities of office and giving his undivided attention to his farming interests.

The parents of our subject were Jacob and Annie (Glaze) Olehy, who were both natives of Ohio, and the father born near Chillicothe. The paternal grandfather, Virginius Olehy, was of English and German descent. The parents were married in Vermilion County, Ill., to which they came in their youth, in 1833-34. Mr. Olehy carried on farming, and both he and his wife died of cholera in 1849.

They were the parents of five children, four of whom are living. Rebecca, the eldest, is the wife of Alonzo Cook, a coal dealer of Georgetown Township. Dennis is a carpenter by trade and a resident of Danville. Martha R., is the widow of John Martin, a mechanical engineer who died in Danville.

J. S. MOSES is a prominent business man of Hoopeston, news dealer, Justice of the Peace, and dealer in musical instruments, books, stationery and notions. He was born in Portsmouth, N. H., March 26, 1846, and there resided with his parents outside of the city, obtaining his education in Portsmouth, later attending school at Dixon, Ill.

When Mr. Moses came to Illinois he was about twenty-one years of age. He located in Whiteside County, where he taught school, following the same pursuit also in Lee County, and while living there he attended school part of the time at Dixon. In 1875 he first came to Vermilion County, teaching school for three or four years, after which he engaged in the business mentioned above, and has so continued ever since. He has made a success in everything he has undertaken, in a financial point of view, and as an official his record is of the very best. He has been City Treasurer, Alderman, Justice of the Peace, and all of these offices have come to him unsought, as his neighbors believe that he possesses all of the attributes necessary to hold any position within their gift.

On the 14th of February, 1870, Mr. Moses married Miss Hattie Bixby, of Amboy, Ill. They have had two children, of whom only one is living, Fred W. Mr. Moses has built a good home on Second avenue, where he has lived for some time, and where it is hoped he may enjoy many years of his useful life. He has done much to build up the literary tastes of the people of his town, and there not being any good library here, he has personally expended a generous amount in maintaining a good circulating library of 1,200 volumes. This alone is a good recommendation for any man.

Mrs. Moses was born in Lee Center, Lee Co., Ill., Dec. 22, 1853, and is a daughter of L. L. Bixby, a prominent farmer of that section of the country. She remained at home, except for the time she attended school, until her marriage. William Moses, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Portsmouth, N. H., where he was reared on the old homestead, which has been in the Moses family since 1680. He received his education in his native city, and when he attained his majority, located on a farm two miles from town, where he engaged in the business of general farming. His wife's maiden name was Miss Abigail A. Seavey, and they are the parents of seven children, of whom only three are now living: Mrs. Julia (Moses) Moses is living in Portsmouth; Mrs. Augusta O. (Moses) Seavey, and the subject of this sketch. The father is still living, but his wife died in 1886. William Moses has held the various local offices of Portsmouth, although he never was possessed of political aspirations. He has voted invariably with the Democratic party, and is prominent in its counsels. Religiously he believes in the doctrines of the Baptist Church, and is a member of the I. O. O. F. William Moses is respected in his native town as a man of many good qualities.

J. S. Moses is a stalwart Democrat, and has been very prominent in his party. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and M. W. A. He belongs to the Union Church of his city, and in all social affairs does his share toward making life happier and better.

NATHAN WILLIAMS, a successful farmer, stock-raiser and merchant, of Hoopeston, was born in Harrison County, Ohio, Nov. 1, 1834. His farm is situated on section 11, township 23, range 12, and near the fair grounds. Beside his farming and cattle-feeding interests, he is also largely interested in the drygoods business, which is conducted in the firm name of Williams Bros.

Mr. Williams remained in his native county with his father and mother until he became of age, attending the common schools and working on the farm alternately. In 1854 he came to Illinois and

engaged with his brother, who was also following agricultural pursuits. He remained here but one season, then returning to Ohio, where he took charge of the old homestead. In 1862 he married Miss Susanna Norman, of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and in 1864, he returned to Illinois, and concluded to remain here. In 1865 he bought a farm in Prairie Green Township, Iroquois Co., Ill., which was partially improved. Here he prosecuted the business of stock-raising, handling large herds, and was successful. He improved this farm by building the necessary houses and barns that were needed, and by fencing and hedging. In 1871, when Hoopeston first came into existence, he came here and erected a large boarding house. In 1875, in company with his brother John, he purchased a grocery business, which was his first mercantile venture, but which was a successful one, notwithstanding the financial depression that carried down other firms in the vicinity. He continued in the grocery business until 1881, when his brother sold out to Mr. Catherwood, and our subject and Mr. Catherwood continued the business, going into the grain business in addition. He remained in this partnership for a short time, when he purchased the whole business and has built up a large trade, also in dry-goods, last year amounting to $30,000. The firm at this writing is Williams Bros., his brother Joseph having purchased an interest in the business. In their employ as general manager is Mr. Bond, a nephew of the subject of this sketch, and a man of large experience. This recapitulation is given merely to exhibit the business ability of Mr. Williams and to show his capacity in different lines of trade. He has not made a failure in anything that he has undertaken, but has steadily gone forward and lifted up every business he has handled.

Politically Mr. Williams is a Republican, but has never cared for office, though enthusiastic in his advocacy of the party to which he belongs. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and also of the Sunday-school.

Mrs. Williams was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Daniel and Dorcas Norman, who was a farmer by occupation, and who removed from Ohio to Indiana, where his wife died in 1887. He is now residing with his daughter, Mrs. Williams. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are the parents of seven children, of whom but three are living: Joseph O., is residing with his father, while James A. is a partner in the firm of Williams Bros.; Anna May is also at home.

HENRY DORUS NEWELL, owns a large farm in Carroll Township, acquired by his own industry, being a self-made man and receiving no financial assistance in making his start in life. Mr. Newell has been engaged in the tailoring business for the long period of forty-five years and operates considerably as a money loaner. His land, 170 acres, is all prairie.

Mr. Joseph Newell, the father of our subject, was a tailor by trade and conducted a general merchant tailoring in Birmingham, England, where he was born and spent his entire life, accumulating a good property. He married Miss Jane Young who was born two miles south of Birmingham. Both the grandfathers of our subject were farmers and with their wives lived to be over eighty years old. To Joseph and Jane Newell there were born ten children, viz: An infant who died unnamed, Frederick, Henry Dorus, our subject; Maria, John, Herbert, William, Harriet, and two more infants, unnamed, deceased. The great-grandfather was a Norman Count by the name of Joseph DeNewell; the "De" was dropped by the father of our subject.

The subject of our sketch attended a private school in Birmingham, prior to the era of the national schools. He learned rapidly, being more than ordinarily bright and intelligent, and completed his studies at the age of fourteen years, being also at that age confirmed in the Episcopal Church. He then began working in his father's shop, acquiring the trade of a tailor readily, but he was fond of adventure, and as soon as able to do journeyman's work, left home and traveled through the northern part of England, also going to Greenock and other places in Scotland. He was thus occupied for a period of nine years, during which time he was the hero of many a romance in which the fair

English girls and Scotch lassies figured quite prominently. He visited the principal cities of England, those containing more than 10,000 inhabitants, and in 1846 became deeply interested in politics and in the charter movement, which he favored very strongly. This was his first experience in politics and made him strongly Democratic. During the year above mentioned, he established himself in business in London, where he remained three years, then went to France and worked at his trade in Paris six weeks.

Our subject, finally returning to his native city, was married there Jan. 24, 1851, to Miss Hannah Dovey, the ceremony taking place in St. Phillip's Church, Birmingham. This maiden was his sweetheart when he was a boy, they attending the same school and growing up together. They lived in Birmingham for a time after their marriage and then Mr. Newell decided to seek his fortune in the land of liberty. There had then been born to the young couple one child, a son, William Henry. On the 13th of August, 1854, they embarked from Liverpool on the sailing vessel "Enoch Train" from which they landed safely at New Orleans, October 8, following.

Mr. Newell pursued his trade in the Crescent City that winter, and on the 28th of March, 1855, set out for Memphis, Tenn. On the way he fell in with Samuel Grondyck, of Eugene, Ind., who had just marketed his pork in New Orleans and was persuaded by him to return with him to Eugene. He followed his trade there six months and in the meantime became acquainted with some of the leading men of Indianola, which was then Dallas. So he changed his residence once more and being a first-class workman, with little or no competition, soon established a large trade.

Finally, Mr. Newell, changing his occupation somewhat, entered the Government service and for six months was stationed at Johnsonville on the Tennessee River. He had become a naturalized citizen as soon as the law would permit, and cast his first Presidential vote for Douglas in 1860. He invested his accumulated capital in land in Carroll Township, which steadily increased in value and in 1873 associated himself with Mr. Knipe and began operating a sawmill. Later he sold out his interest in this enterprise, but has a one-half interest in a sawmill with Abraham Sandusky, which is located on Sandusky Branch.

In 1881 Mr. Newell formed a partnership with John W. Baum to build a tile manufactory at Chrisman in Edgar County. This they have since operated profitably. Indeed all the enterprises with which Mr. Newell has been connected have resulted creditably to his good judgment. He has expended a handsome sum of money in law books and historical works, and frequently officiates as an attorney, his ready speech and exceptionally good memory serving him well upon these occasions and causing his opponents to look well to their laurels. He is likewise well versed in history of the world at large, especially that of England and the United States.

The home of Mr. Newell is pleasantly situated in the north part of the village and comprises a neat and tasteful residence with attractive surroundings, and within it, are books, music, works of art and all the appliances of refined life. His children are bright and intelligent, possessing much musical talent, and the elegant upright piano in their home is the source of much pleasure and satisfaction both to them and their many friends.

Mrs. Hannah (Dovey) Newell departed this life at her home in Indianola in 1857 leaving two children, William H., who died at the aged of twenty-three years, and Jennie who died at the age of four months. Our subject, in 1861, was married a second time to Mrs. Laura A. (Ferrell) James, widow of Elijah James by whom she had five children, Jasper L., Syrena F., B. W., Myrtle and Semour. Mrs. Laura Newell was born at Clinton, Vermillion Co., Ind. Of her union with our subject there have been born likewise five children, Beatrice, Birdie, who died in infancy; Dixie, Harvey, and Georgie, who died when one year old. Beatrice is the wife of Jasper Moore, an engineer at Sidell, and they have three children, Harry D., Mossie and a babe named Laura. Dixie married Milton Henson, a farmer, and they reside in Villa Grove in Douglas County, Ill. The other child is at home with the parents. Mr. Newell belongs to the Episcopal Church while Mrs. Newell is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Indianola.

Although a decided Democrat, politically, Mr. Newell mixes very little in public affairs, with the exception of serving twice on the County Central Committe. He visited his native land in 1883 during the World's Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in London, and attended a very interesting shooting match at Wimbledon. America was finely represented at the exposition and it was a source of no little pride to him that he was a citizen of the United States. During this tour he made the acquaintance of several noted individuals, among them being George C. Miln, the famous preacher-actor, who was one of the passengers on the steamer "Parthia" on which Mr. Newell made the return voyage.

ALBERT HARPER, President of the Danville Commercial Company, and business manager of that establishment, was born in Michigan City, Ind., April 22, 1846. His paternal ancestors, who were of Irish extraction, were for several generations residents of the South, and his father, Archibald Reed Harper, was born in South Carolina in 1815. When the latter was quite young the family removed to Rush County, Ind., where our subject's father lived until 1833. In that year he and an elder brother went to Michigan City, LaPorte Co., Ind., which at that time seemed destined to be the leading point of the southern shore of Lake Michigan. Having established a home there, the brothers sent for their parents and the rest of the family, who soon afterward joined them. There the grandparents lived the remainder of their lives, and both died in 1851.

Archibald Harper and his brother Asa were carpenters and cabinet-makers, and worked at this trade together until 1850, when the former removed to Porter County, Ind., where he engaged in farming until 1880, when he retired from active life, and is now living at Chesterton, an honored pioneer of Northern Indiana. He was twice married, his first wife being Miss Foster, who died leaving one child, O. E. Harper, now a resident of Danville. The second wife, mother of our subject, was Miss Emily A. Atwater, who was born Sept. 4, 1824, in Canada, whence her parents removed first to Pennsylvania, and later to Michigan City. She is living with her husband in Chesterton. This second union was blessed by the birth of eight children. Two died in infancy, and one, Margaret, after reaching womanhood. The survivors are: Albert, who is the eldest; Almer, a merchant of Chesterton; Laura, wife of Irving Brush, a farmer near that place; Homer S., a painter, living in Pierre, Dak.; and Samuel A., a druggist in Chesterton.

The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood on the farm, receiving his education in the district schools. When fifteen years of age he began learning the trade of a printer in Valparaiso, Ind., where, with the exception of one year spent in Williamsport, Ind., he remained until 1869, when he came to Danville, which has since been his home. He began life there as a compositor on the *Commercial*, and he has since been identified with that journal. In 1870 he bought a quarter interest in the establishment, still retaining his position in the composing room. The following year the business was reorganized under the name of the "Commercial Company," and Mr. Harper was chosen President. In 1877 he was installed as Business Manager, a position for which his practical knowledge of the business, and his affable and pleasing manners, peculiarly qualify him. The success of this prosperous journal is largely due to his careful and prudent management of its financial interests.

May 29, 1873, Mr. Harper was united in marriage with Miss Julia Payton, who was born in Vance Township, Vermilion County, Feb. 8, 1847. Her parents were John M. and Sarah (Frazier) Payton, and her grandfather, Peter Frazier, was one of the first pioneers of the county, where he entered Government land at a very early day. He lived to an advanced age, dying in 1881, aged ninety-seven years, one of the oldest white men who ever lived in Vermilion County. The mother of Mrs. Harper died Aug. 28, 1878, in Danville, and since then her father has made his home with his daughter and our subject. He is now in his sixty-seventh year. Some seven years ago he gave up his farm and is now living a retired life.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Harper has been

blessed to them by the birth of two children—Katie Payton and Ernest Herbert, both attending school at Danville. The parents are both members of the Kimber Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Harper belongs to the order of the Royal Templars of Temperance and the National Union.

During his residence of twenty years in Danville, Mr. Harper has become widely known and highly respected. A gentleman of modest and unassuming deportment, of genial manners and of real merit, he has the confidence and esteem of the entire community.

WILBUR CAST, the well-known "Short Stop" of the base ball nine, the Sidell Reds, is designated as the "cute hitter" and with his comrades has furnished great recreation for the denizens of Sidell and vicinity, displaying in a marked degree the skill which may be attained by long practice and which really amounts to a science. This "nine" is the pride of the town and Mr. Cast one of its most popular boys. Base ball, however, occupies only a small portion of his time as he is industriously engaged in the cultivation of his little farm of eighty acres, where he makes his headquarters and although living in an unpretentious style, manages to extract a great deal of comfort from life. His career thus far has been signalized by perseverance and integrity, and he is a universal favorite among his townspeople. He has attained to his position solely by his own efforts, having been thrown upon his own resources early in life. Upon coming to this county twelve years ago or so, he engaged as a laborer by the month at Fairmount, and by a course of industry and economy succeeded in making the purchase of his present farm.

Mr. Cast was born in Clinton County, Ohio, six miles north of Clarksville, Dec. 22, 1858, and was reared to manhood in the Buckeye State, receiving good educational advantages. His father, Ezekiel Cast, was married in early manhood to Miss Martha (Francis) Berkely, a native of Clarksville, and subsequently operated as a carpenter and farmer. He is still living on his farm and is seventy years of age. The mother died in 1861 aged about forty years. Mr. Cast was married three times after the death of his first wife. The parental household included seven children, viz: Mary F., Isaac William, Letta, Joseph, Wilbur F. L., Jennie and Charles. Our subject was only three years old at the time of his mother's death and remained in his native State until a youth of sixteen years. Then coming to this county he entered the employ of W. H. Bartley, now a resident of Fairmount, and he attended school two winters afterward. He was married in March, 1886, to Miss Celia, daughter of John and Rachel Frances (Collins) Nugent, of Fairmount. The latter named came to this county in 1861. Mrs. Cast was born and reared near Fairmount, and of her union with our subject there are two children, Raymond E. and Katie F.

Mr. Cast purchased his present farm in the fall of 1885, and is making perceptible headway as the seasons pass. He is a strict Republican, politically, and a favorite in both the social and business circles of this community. Mrs. Cast is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The father of our subject served in the Union army from the beginning to the close of the Civil War.

WILLIAM P. WITHERSPOON, JR. Among all the good things of life, there are few more pleasant or desirable than a neat, attractive and well-regulated home, be it in the city or country, although to most minds a home amid the green fields with their peaceful and quiet scenes is the most desirable. They who have a true conception of the advantages of life in the rural districts, may, as in the case of Mr. Witherspoon and his estimable wife, build up a home very nearly approaching the ideal, as they have done, working without question, with the mutual aim in view of gathering around themselves the appliances craved by cultivated tastes and refined instincts. That they have succeeded in an admirable manner, is

quite evident in looking about their home, which is one of the most attractive spots in Vance Township. Their children are receiving careful home training and a good education, such as will fit them for their station in life and make them good and worthy citizens.

The subject of this notice is a native of Indiana, and was born Feb. 11, 1848, being the sixth child of William P., Sr., and Permelia (Berlin) Witherspoon, the former a native of Alabama and the latter of Patoka, Ind. The father of our subject was born in 1808, and twenty years later, leaving his native State, emigrated north to Southern Indiana, and since that time has lived in the vicinity of Patoka. Grandfather Berlin was born in Germany, whence he removed to Scotland, and finally came to America, spending his last days in Indiana. William P. Witherspoon, Sr., was married in Gibson County, Ind., served in the Black Hawk War, and subsequently became a prominent citizen of his county. The wife and mother died in 1878. Their family consisted of nine children, eight of whom are living. The father has attained the advanced age of eighty-three years and is in reasonably good health.

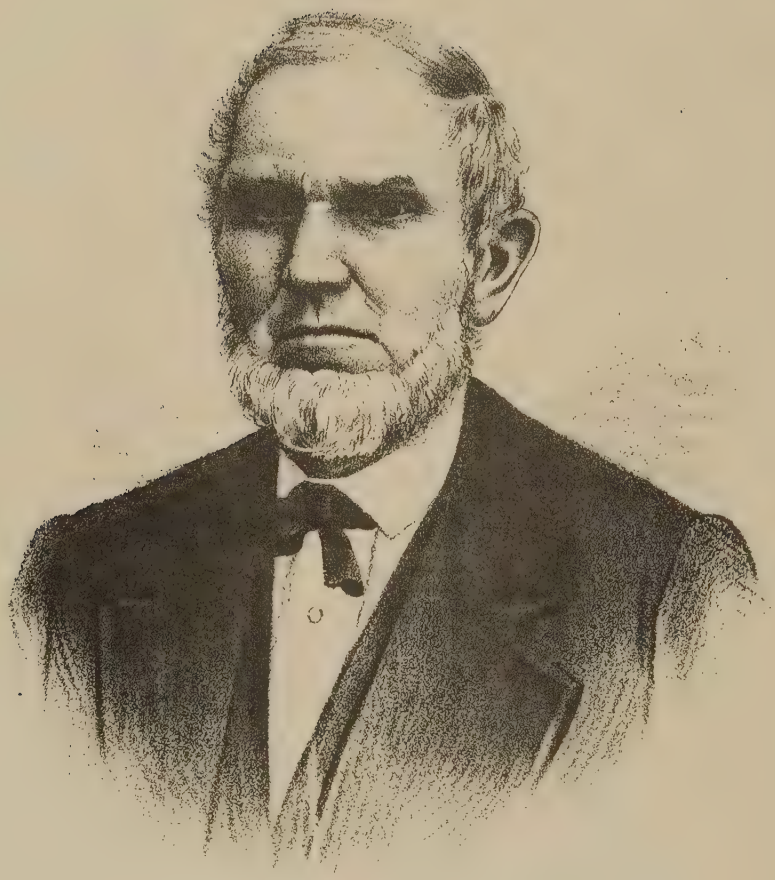
Our subject pursued his first lessons in the schools of Patoka, Ind., and later attended school on the old Tippecanoe battle ground north of La Fayette. He took kindly to his books and became thoroughly well informed. He was but a lad of fifteen years at the outbreak of the Civil War, and three years later, in 1864, entered the ranks of the Union army, enlisting in Company G, 143d Indiana Infantry, in which he was made first color guard and occupied a very conspicuous place in time of action. He was with his regiment during the battles of Nashville, Murfresboro, Tallahoma and Knoxville, and from this latter place went to Clarksville, Tenn., where he remained until the close of the war. He was mustered out at Nashville in October, 1865.

Three brothers of our subject also served in the Union army. John was a member of Company H, 17th Indiana Infantry, and re-enlisted after the expiration of his first term of service. Moses and James were in Company A, 80th Indiana Infantry. The former was shot five times at the battle of Resaca, Ga., receiving wounds in the left arm, hip, thigh, the calf of his leg and his foot. He is still living, making his home near Patoka, Ind. James participated in all the battles of his regiment, experiencing many hairbreadth escapes, but returned home comparatively uninjured, and also resides near Patoka.

After leaving the army our subject lived with his father on the farm until in October, 1868, when he came to this county and entered the store of his cousin, J. R. Witherspoon, of Fairmount, where he continued eighteen months. Then returning to the farm he sojourned there one year, and in 1870, in company with his brother Moses, opened a store of general merchandise at Patoka, which they conducted until the spring of 1872. On the 12th of March, that year, our subject was united in marmarriage with Miss Esther, daughter of Maj. Wilson Burroughs of Fairmount, and a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

About this time Mr. Witherspoon disposed of his interest in the store at Patoka, Ind., and rented the farm which he now owns and occupies. Later he purchased a farm on section 19, to which he removed and lived upon it until in December, 1875. Then selling out he returned with his family to Indiana, purchasing a farm near Patoka, where he lived three years. Then selling out once more he came back to this county and purchased his present farm, which consists of 100 acres of thoroughly cultivated land. He is considerably interested in live-stock, horses, cattle and swine, in which industry he has been fairly successful. He keeps about eighteen head of horses and mules. He has built a fine barn, 36x40 feet in dimensions, and an ample system of sheds occupying an area of 16x40 feet. There is no more desirable home on the south road from Fairmount to Homer. East of the dwelling is the first orchard which he planted, and west of it another one younger, but in good bearing condition. Numerous evergreens surrounding the house add greatly to the beauty and value of the homestead.

The three children born to our subject and his estimable wife were named respectively, Stella Z., Wilson W. and Myrtle M. The eldest is sixteen years old and the youngest six. Our subject is



Darra Dickson

WRITTEN AT, 83.

rather conservative in politics and has always voted the straight Democratic ticket. Aside from officiating as School Director in his district, he has steadily declined the responsibilities of office. Both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, and his children attend the Sunday-school regularly.

DAVID DICKSON. The results of a healthful, temperate and honorable life are finely illustrated in the career of this sturdy old veteran of eighty-three years, who still retains his faculties unimpaired, and with whom it is most pleasant and profitable to converse. He is one of the oldest men in Carroll Township, and preserves a distinct recollection of many events occurring during the period of the early settlement of this county, in which he bore a conspicuous part, and assisted largely in its growth and development. He was the pioneer stockman and stock feeder of this region, and in all his intercourse with his fellow-men preserved that upright and honorable demeanor which gained him their highest esteem and confidence.

A native of Lewis County, Ky., our subject was born Dec. 13, 1806, and is the son of Robert and Phebe (Means) Dickson, the former a native of Maryland, and the latter of Mifflin County, Pa. The paternal grandfather, David Dickson, was of English descent, and grandfather John Means traced his ancestry to Ireland. Upon coming to America the parents of the latter settled in Bucks County, where he was born, reared and married, his bride being Miss Jemima Scudder, a native of Trenton, N. J., and of Holland-Dutch ancestry. The maiden name of grandmother Dickson was Jane Stephenson. She was a native of Maryland, and of English descent.

The parents of our subject were married in Mason County, Ky. They were of exactly the same age, being born on the same day—Dec. 16, 1765. Some time after their marriage they settled in Lewis County, and thence came to Illinois in the spring of 1824. The mother died that year at the age of forty-eight years. To her had been born eleven children, viz.: James, who died in infancy; John, Jane, James S., Amos, David, our subject, Margaret, Robert, Moses, Jemima and Andrew S. Mr. Dickson was married a second time to Miss Hester Stretch, who died, leaving two children—William T., living, and Moses B., dead. The elder Dickson survived his wife only three years, his death taking place in 1827, from typhus fever. He was a stanch Democrat, politically, and with his good wife was firmly grounded in the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent in his native county, where he became familiar with farm pursuits, and was required to make himself useful at an early age about the homestead. His eldest brother was a boat builder, and when the family decided upon a removal from the Blue Grass State, the two boys constructed a flatboat, and with the father purchased a keelboat besides. Upon these they loaded their stock, farming utensils and household goods, together with the family, and set sail on the Ohio River to the promised land. At Louisville, however, on account of high water, they were obliged to abandon their boats after unloading their stock, consisting of oxen, horses and cows, and made their way overland to this county, settling upon the land comprising our subject's present farm. The latter with his brothers, James and Amos, pushed the keelboat up the Wabash River, and unloaded its contents a little ways above Newport, Ind., at Coleman's prairie. Thence they hauled their property to their destination—the land which their father had entered from the Government upon his first trip to the West, in the fall of 1823.

The education of young Dickson, like that of his brothers and sisters, was conducted in a log schoolhouse in old Kentucky, where they sat upon benches made from slabs, and tried to look out of the window, which had greased paper instead of glass for panes. A huge fireplace extended nearly across one end of the building, and the chimney was built outside of earth and sticks. The teacher instilled learning into his pupils largely by the use of the rod, and David Dickson, it is hardly to be doubted, was one of the most mischievous of his students. The system of instruction was far infe-

rior to that of the present day, and one book went through the family until it was worn out.

When about twenty-three years of age, being ready to establish domestic ties of his own, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Waters on the 3d of August, 1829. This lady was born in Stafford County, Va., May 10, 1810, and removed to Bourbon County, Ky., with her parents in 1814. In 1828 they came to this county, the family comprising three sons and six daughters. Parents and children were remarkable for their healthful frames and robust constitutions. The two families soon became acquainted, and it was not long until David Dickson was the accepted suitor of Miss Waters.

Mr. Dickson often recalls to his mind the appearance of the country in Central Illinois at this time and prior to it. He describes it as exceedingly beautiful, diversified with prairie and timber, the meadows and marshes thriving with a luxurious growth of prairie grass and wild flowers. At intervals some careless traveler or thoughtless settler would accidentally set fire to the dry vegetation, and then would ensue a conflagration terrible to behold, and frightful to those who did not know how to protect themselves from it. Wild animals of all kinds abounded, deer, wolves, etc., while poisonous reptiles—the rattlesnake, the blue racer, the black and the garter snake—kept the traveler on the look-out. There were also great quantities of wild birds—geese, ducks and pheasants, besides turkeys and pigeons. The Kickapoo and Pottawatomie Indians had not yet left the country—prowling around until 1835, when they were removed west of the Mississippi.

The people of that time and place were noted for their hospitality and the community of interest which led them at all times to be regardful of each other's welfare. They had all come to build up homes for themselves, and socially, as well as financially, were upon common ground, very few of them possessing much of this world's goods. They had many difficulties in common to contend with, having to go long distances to mill and market, and obtaining their mail at Paris, the county seat of Edgar County. That county then embraced a large tract of land, extending from its present limits to Chicago.

After the death of the father, each one of the Dickson boys started out in life for himself. They were all bright and energetic, but David, perhaps, led the van in enterprise and perseverance. He began entering land, and in due time found himself the owner of 1,400 acres. A large proportion of this was brought to a good state of cultivation, and he gave away 1,000 acres to his children, so that he now has but 400 acres. Much of this land was obtained on a Mexican warrant. In 1827 he walked to Fort Clarke, now Peoria, stopping there on his way to Galena. He made the journey on foot on what was then called the Kellogg trace, a distance of 180 miles. He carried his clothes and provisions in a knapsack, and saw the vessel which was fired upon by the Winnebago Indians, on account of which, originated the subsequent troubles of that time. He worked for a time in the mines at New Diggings, and in the meantime became acquainted with the founder of Fort Gratiot. Some of the time he was employed for others at the rate of $16 per month. In the fall of the year above mentioned he worked his passage down the Mississippi to St. Louis on a keelboat, then purchased a pony, and rode across the State. He was at Shelbyville when that city was laid out for the county seat. At one time he was employed in the salt-works north of Catlin, prior to going to Galena.

Mr. Dickson made his first trip to the little town of Chicago in 1835, taking with him a load of produce drawn by oxen. Later, in 1839, he began feeding cattle, and was the first man to engage in this industry on the Little Vermilion. In 1844 he drove 100 head of hogs to Chicago, and during 1848, 1849 and 1850 transported in this manner several herds of fat cattle to Philadelphia and New York City. In connection with this fact it may be noted, that Carroll Township has produced more and finer cattle than any other township in the State of Illinois, and Mr. Dickson in his palmy days was recognized as one of the leaders in this business. Four children came to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Dickson, and three are living. Silas is married and the father of three children—Evelina, Robert and Bertinus; he makes his home in

Indianola, and is represented elsewhere in this work; Robert died unmarried at the age of thirty-three years; Permelia J. is the wife of Dr. J. W. Rawlston, of Danville; Jemima is the wife of Allen Varner, a farmer of Ross Township, Edgar County, and they have six children—Jacob D., Mary, Margaret, Robert, William and David D.

Mr. Dickson cast his first Presidential vote for Andrew Jackson in 1832, and has voted at fourteen Presidential elections, never omitting one since reaching his majority. He has continued from the first a pronounced Democrat, and keeps himself well posted upon all matters of general interest. He finds his religious home in the Methodist Episcopal Church at Indianola. He has been an observant witness of the extraordinary changes occurring in Central Illinois, and his experiences, if properly written up, would fill a good-sized volume. The wife of his youth was spared to him until quite aged, her death taking place Aug. 21, 1887, when seventy-seven years old. There are few men of the age of Mr. Dickson whose faculties are so little impaired by the flight of time, and who can recall so vividly events of more than fifty years ago. He is never at a loss for words with which to present the contrast between the past and the present, and no man has a finer conception of what has been accomplished in the great West by the hardy spirits who ventured to the frontier, and whose labors resulted in the transformation of the wilderness to the abode of a peaceful, intelligent and law-abiding people.

A volume of this character would be incomplete without the portrait of a pioneer settler, whose life and history are inseparably associated with that of the county for which he has done so much. As the reader turns the pages, he will gaze with pleasure upon the loved face of the venerated David Dickson.

SAMUEL BLAIR is a native of Vermilion County and was born in Newell Township, Dec. 5, 1838. His father and mother, William G. and Christina (Braden) Blair were natives of Kentucky, the former having been born Feb. 6, 1797, and died May 4, 1882, while Mrs. Blair's birth occurred on April 19, 1798. She died Oct. 2, 1877. This venerable couple settled in Newell Township on 120 acres of land and as old settlers, are entitled to all the praise that clusters around that brave class of people. They came here when Vermilion County was in its infancy and lived to see it take its place as one of the prominent counties of a great State.

Samuel Blair is the youngest of a family of seven children, and as before stated was born in the township where he now resides. He married Miss Mary M. Casart, daughter of Peter and Mary Casart, natives of Kentucky. Mrs. Blair was born in Glass County, Mo., March 7, 1842, and came to Illinois with her parents while very young. She is the sixth child of a family of nine children. She is the mother of six children, whose record follows: Henry M. is engaged with his father in buying and shipping grain and also in the mercantile business; Robert is the husband of Jennie Watson and is a near neighbor of his father and mother; Alice died at the age of ten months; Clara M. is at home; Franklin F. is dead; Samuel A. lives with his parents.

Mr. Blair is the owner of 420 acres of good land all of which is finely improved. In his farming operations he makes a specialty of breeding Shorthorn cattle, and the place is especially noted for the fine shade trees thereon. In an early day these trees afforded shelter for the emigrants, and were noted and favorably commented upon from Chicago to Cairo. They were indeed an oasis on these vast prairies. During his boyhood days Mr. Blair frequently drove to Chicago with apples and other produce that was raised on the farm, and the events of these pioneer days are related by him with an evident relish.

Politically Mr. Blair is a Democrat, and is now postmaster at Newell, where he is engaged with his son in business. He has held the offices of Town Clerk, Treasurer, and Road Commissioner, and his conduct of these offices has merited the applause of his neighbors. There is no person in Vermilion County who is more public spirited than he, and he is ever willing to do anything that will aid in in the prosperity of his community. His home is

surrounded by all that a cultivated taste and comfort could suggest, and is one of which a king might be proud. As a business man, it goes without saying that Samuel Blair is unqualifiedly successful. His reputation for honorable dealing has given him a large prestige, which is used with discretion. Religiously Mr. Blair is an energetic member of the United Brethern Church, an organization in which he figures as a leading light.

JOHN L. PADGITT of Georgetown Township, is pursuing the even tenor of his way as a farmer in comfortable circumstances, the hero of a comparatively uneventful career, and has passed the greater part of his life in this region. He has signalized himself as a peaceful and law abiding citizen, and has a comfortable home on section 6, where underneath his hospitable roof are frequently welcomed the many friends whom he and his estimable wife have made during their long sojourn in this county.

Our subject was born in Highland Township, Vermillion Co., Ind., June 28, 1840, and is the son of Alfred and Elizabeth (Bell) Padgitt, who were natives of Kentucky, where they were reared and married. The father served in the war of 1812 and died in Indiana when his son John L. was but six years old. The mother and her children thereafter lived in Indiana until the latter were able to look out for themselves. Her death took place in Indiana in July, 1661. There were twelve children in the family, four sons and eight daughters, all of whom lived to become men and women and of whom John L., our subject, was the ninth child.

Mr. Padgitt remained a resident of his native county until reaching man's estate and when a little over nineteen years old was married July 10, 1859, to Miss Ellen O'Neal, a maiden of seventeen. They settled upon a tract of rented land in Georgetown Township, where they lived until Mr. Padgitt, in 1865, enlisted at Danville as a soldier in the Union army in Company E, 150th Illinois Infantry under Capt. Parker. From Danville they repaired to Springfield, where they were mustered into service and were afterward employed at Provost Marshal duty around Bridgeport, Ala., Cleveland, Tenn., Dalton, Atlanta, and Griffin, Ga. There being then no further need of their services, they were mustered out at Atlanta Jan. 16, 1866, and received their discharge at Camp Butler, Ill. Afterward, Mr. Padgitt resumed farming in Georgetown Township and in 1877 purchased his present place of seventy-one acres. Here he has made a comfortable living and by his industry and good qualities as a member of the community, has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens.

To our subject and his excellent wife there were born three children, the eldest of whom, Viola F., is the wife of Dr. Buford Taylor of Westville, who is represented in this work. They have two children—Louie and Bertha E; Celia J. is the wife of Charles Cook a farmer of Georgetown Township; Birdie D. remains at home with her parents. The latter are members of the Christian Church. Mr. Padgitt politically is a sound Republican and has held the office of Constable.

Mrs. Padgitt is the daughter of Isaac and America (Lowe) O'Neal, who came to Vermilion County with their parents in their youth and were married here. The mother died in 1851 at the early age of twenty-eight years. Mr. O'Neal was married twice afterwards. He had five children each by his first and second wives. His eldest daughter, Ellen, is the wife of our subject; Samuel married a Miss Graves, is the father of two children, Mamie and Gertie, and resides in Kansas; Evaline married James Cook, who resides at Westville and the others are deceased. Mr. O'Neal was a farmer by occupation and is now deceased.

HENRY BASS, who is prominent among the well-to-do farmers of Middle Fork Township, owns and occupies 230 acres of choice land upon which he has effected good improvements. He is a native of Buckinghamshire, England, and the son of Henry and Sarah (Hart)

Bass who were born in Bedfordshire. They removed to the first mentioned county in their youth, where they were married and settled in the shire town of Olney, where there were born to them seven children, viz.: Thomas; Henry, our subject; Eliza; Sarah, who married John Cook, a native of England and is now living in Chicago; James, William and Fanny. The latter was married and died in England, leaving five sons and one daughter. One of the sons, Bernard Graves, is now living with his uncle, our subject. Fanny Bass died in England about 1884. The mother is still living and is now ninety-four years old.

Our subject and his father's family for years used the church pew, originally occupied by the poet Cowper in the Baptist Church of Olney, and the house in which the poet lived is still standing in that town. Mr. Bass was reared to manhood in his native place and was married to Miss Harriet, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Stewart) Bennett. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Bass were born in Norfolk, where they were also reared and married, and where their children were born and reared. Her people on her father's side of the house were mostly residents of Bedfordshire, and all were Methodists in religious belief. In the history of Olney the catching of eels formed one of its important industries, there being a large eel trap in the river and a portion was given annually to the crown, according to law. This was in an early day.

In 1851 our subject and his wife, with father Bennett and family of four sons and one daughter, emigrated to the United States on the sailing vessel "Vanguard," landing in New York City after a voyage of nineteen days. Thence they proceeded to Buffalo by rail, and from there by the lake to Toledo, at which point they took a canal boat to Attica, Ind., from which point they came overland by team to this county and located in Middle Fork Township. Mr. Bass opened the first store of general merchandise in the town of Marysville, but a year or two later decided he would prefer farming and accordingly settled to that occupation.

In a burying ground near the old English home of our subject is a stone which marks the resting place of one of his ancestors, Amos Bass, who died probably 100 years ago at the age of ninety-three. The family had been for several generations residents of Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire, and were people generally well-to-do and universally respected. Our subject is the father of seven children, three of whom—Thomas, Samuel and Harriet, died young. Mary is the wife of W. F. Burt of Middle Fork Township; Fanny married Samuel, the son of James Gilbert of Ross Township; Fred is selling goods in Armstrong; Arthur S. is farming in Middle Fork Township. Mr. and Mrs. Bass have been able to surround themselves with all the comforts of life and are held in high esteem by their neighbors. Both are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JAMES H. STEVENS, a gentleman very popular in his community and possessed of more than ordinary intelligence, is engaged in farming on a modest scale on section 9, where he has eighty acres of well developed land with comfortable buildings. He makes a specialty of market gardening, his produce finding a ready demand among the coal miners in that vicinity. Honesty and integrity form the leading qualities in a character of superior excellence, and which has gained for Mr. Stevens in a marked degree the esteem and confidence of all who know him.

Our subject was born at his father's homestead on section 9, near Brooks' Point in Georgetown Township, Vermilion County, Jan. 5, 1826, and there spent the opening years of his life. He obtained his education in the subscription schools, which were conducted in a log house built in the primitive fashion of those times with puncheon floor, seats and desks of slabs, greased paper for window panes, and a few other finishings and furnishings incident to pioneer times. He was at an early age taught to make himself useful around the homestead. The nearest mill for a number of years was at Terre Haute, Ind. There was for a long time only two wagons in the neighborhood within a radius of ten miles, and the neighbors for some distance around used to each send a bag of corn to

be ground, while two men would go in charge of the grist. Later a mill was established half a mile from the home of the Stevens family and operated by horse power. This was considered quite a luxury, being a great saving of time and travel.

Upon approaching manhood young Stevens began making arrangements for a home of his own, and in 1857 took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Rountree. This lady was born in Ohio and removed with her parents to Indiana when a girl. She lived at home until her marriage with our subject, which took place near Crawfordsville, Ind. Prior to and for some time after his marriage Mr. Stevens engaged as teacher in Illinois and Indiana, covering a period of fifteen years. He met with success as an instructor and was proffered the professorship of a seminary in Missouri. On account of the outbreak of the Rebellion he declined, feeling it his duty to assist in the preservation of the Union. He raised a company in Catlin, of which he was to have been Captain, but upon reporting to the Governor under the call for 75,000 men, the quota was found to be full and they were not accepted.

Mr. Stevens now turned his attention to agriculture and purchased his present farm of eighty acres, where he took up his abode and has since resided. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, namely: Charles Fremont, Winfield S. and Jessie F. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens are members of the North street Methodist Episcopal Church at Danville, and our subject politically is a strong Republican. Upon becoming a voting citizen he joined the Democratic party, but in 1856, finding his party had violated their professed principles, he wheeled into the Republican ranks the year of their organization, voted for John C. Fremont, and has since labored for the success of Republican principles. He takes a warm interest in educational matters and keeps himself well posted upon topics of general interest.

The parents of our subject were James and Susannah (Thomas) Stevens, the father a native of Kentucky and the mother born in Knox County, E. Tenn., in the old fort of historic fame. The paternal grandfather, Solomon Stevens, was born in England, and when coming to America settled in one of the Carolinas, whence he removed later to Kentucky and finally came to Illinois in 1826 in company with his son James. They settled near Brooks' Point, and Grandfather Stevens lived to be seventy years old. James Stevens was seventy-six years old at the time of his death, and his wife, Susannah, was seventy-three. The latter was of German descent and was an offshoot of the family of the Union General, George H. Thomas, who distinguished himself during the late war. Grandfather Stevens was an own cousin to Alexander Stevens of Georgia, and one of the noted Confederate leaders. Both father and grandfather served in the war of 1812. James Stevens was then only a boy and could only enter the army under his father's permission. They fought side by side in the same company. The parental household included nine children, namely: Lovina, William, Polly A., James H., Henderson P., John, Sarah F., Nancy and Samuel.

JOHN R. KINSEY. The community of Oakwood Township recognizes in the subject of this notice one of its most useful and worthy citizens, a man liberal and public spirited, one who gives generously to his church (the United Brethren), in which he is a Class Leader and Steward and an active worker in the Sunday-school, and who in all the walks of life strives to makes the best of circumstances and follow that line of conduct by which he may be enabled to leave a good record for his children to look upon in future years. Conservative in politics, he was first identified with the Old Line Whigs and upon the abandonment of that party by the organization of the Republicans, he identified himself with the latter in whose principles he thoroughly believes and votes accordingly. His occupation is that of a farmer, and he operates forty acres of good land on section 23, also owning fifty-seven acres in Catlin Towhship. He has neat and substantial modern buildings and a comfortable home, built up by his own energy and industry.

The native place of our subject was a few miles

west of the city of Dayton, Ohio, and his birth occurred Oct. 20, 1831. His parents were Jacob and Eliza (Ressor) Kinsey, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter born in Germany, whence she was was brought to America by her parents in early childhood. Grandfather John Kinsey, of Pennsylvania, removed at an early day to the vicinity of Dayton, Ohio, and purchased land from which he constructed the farm which now belongs to the grounds of the Soldier's Home. There his son Jacob was born about 1812. The latter was reared to manhood and married in his native State where he followed farming and carpentering and became owner of a fine property. Later he met with reverses and had little to leave to his children at the time of his death.

The mother of our subject was a lady possessing all the womanly virtues, and a member of the United Brethren Church. There were born to her and her husband, nine sons and four daughters and five of these children are living. Four of the boys entered the Union Army during the late Civil War. Jacob was in the 35th Illinois Infantry and died in the service; David passed safely through the vicissitudes of army life and after the war took up his abode in Spring River, Mo., where he died about 1867 or 1868; Benjamin Franklin contracted measles in the army, was sent home and died; Daniel, of the 35th Illinois Infantry, was taken prisoner and wounded but recovered; returning home, he is now a resident of Butler County, Kan. The mother has long since passed away. Her children cherish and revere her memory above all others for she was truly a mother in every sense, devoted to her husband and regarding her children as her dearest treasures on earth. Mr. Kinsey, the father was twice married after the death of his first wife and spent his last years in Kansas.

Our subject remained a resident of his native State until a youth of sixteen years, then in 1847, removed with his father's family to Peru, Ind. He lived there until 1853, then coming to this county he located on a farm just east of his present homestead. He had received a common school education, but was of that temperament and disposition which led him to keep his eyes open to what was going on around him, and he thus became a well-informed and intelligent citizen. When ready to establish a home of his own he was married at Peru, Ind., to Mrs. Elizabeth Chronister and soon afterward, coming to this county, purchased fifty acres of land from his father where he put up a frame house and became involved in debt. Then selling out he rented land of his father for a year and a half, after which he purchased forty acres—his present farm. Here he hewed his own logs and built a house and stable and since that time has given his attention to the cultivation and improvement of his land. It has been well tiled and drained and is very productive. Besides this he has fifty-seven acres in Catlin Township. He rents other land of his neighbors and besides raising quantities of fruit, having a flourishing orchard, he feeds each year a goodly number of cattle and swine.

Mr. Kinsey and his family now occupy a two story frame dwelling, thirty-six feet square and which was erected in 1881. It makes a very attractive home, beautifully located in the edge of the timber, and is elsewhere represented in this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Kinsey there have been born five children. The eldest, Margaret A., is the wife of Thomas J. Peterson, lives in Kansas and has two children. Jasper N., and the youngest child—Sardis H., remain at home with their parents. John A., is unmarried and a resident of Dakota. Sarah Ellen, Mrs. Daniel Clapp, has one child and lives in Oakwood Township.

JACOB J. ROBERTSON, the son of a well-known pioneer family of Newell Township, his native place, is now classed among its prominent citizens and practical agriculturists who are ably sustaining its highest material and social interests. His father, Zachariah Robertson, was born in Harrison County, Ky., and his mother Elizabeth (Starr) Robertson, was a native of Ohio. (For further parental history see sketch of Z. Robertson).

Our subject was the eldest of their large family of sixteen children, eight sons and eight daughters,

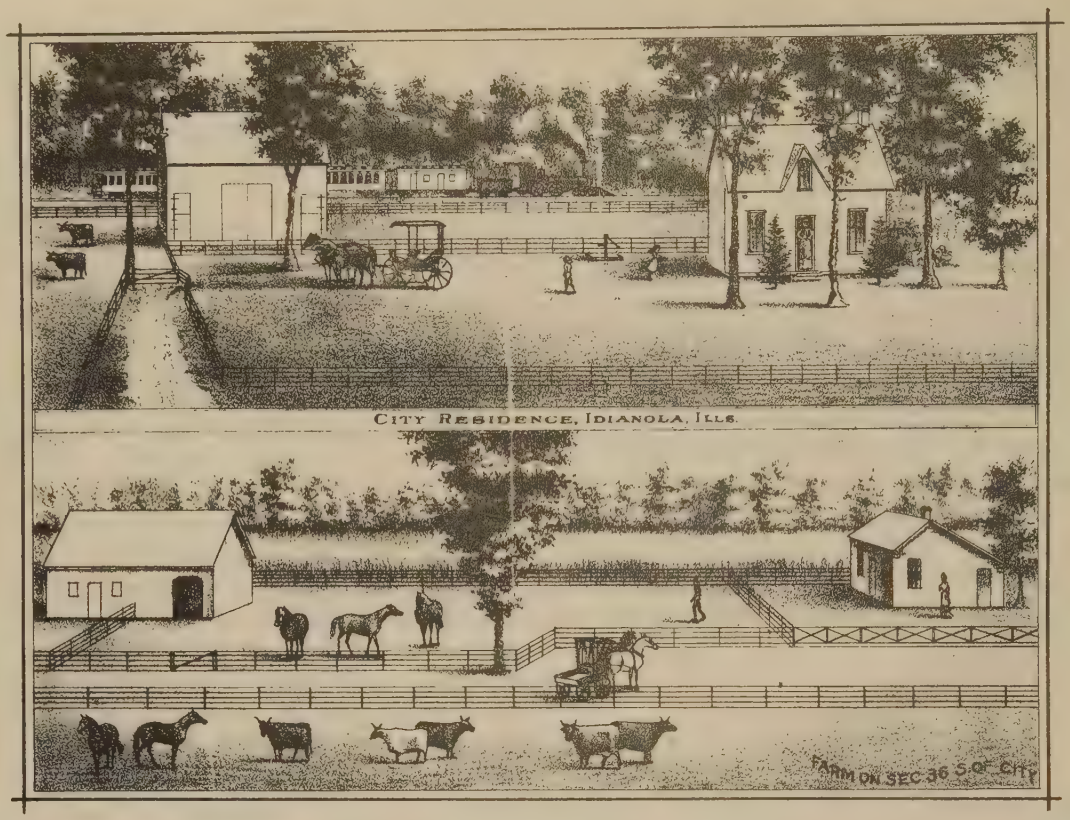
and his birth took place here Sept. 22, 1848. He was reared to man's estate on his father's farm, gaining a thorough knowledge of the vocation that he afterwards adopted as his life-work, and receiving his education mostly in the public schools. Since attaining manhood he has devoted himself exclusively to farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of Short-horn cattle, and his fine herd of that breed compares with the best in the neighborhood. He owns a good farm whose 100 acres of fertile soil are under the highest state of cultivation, and yield him a reliable income. The buildings standing on the farm are in good order, and he and his family have a comfortable home.

Mr. Robertson was married at State Line, Feb. 6, 1872, to Miss Melissa Brithingham, who has greatly aided him in his work as only a capable, devoted wife can do, and to her he frankly acknowledges his indebtedness. Her parents, Benjamin and Eliza (Maechinson) Brithingham, natives of Ohio, where they were married, were among the early settlers of Vermilion County. He died in Middle Park Township, and she died on the old homestead in Pilot Township. They had a family of six daughters and four boys. Mrs. Robertson was the ninth child and was born on the old farm in Pilot Township, Nov. 24, 1848, and has always resided in Vermilion County. Five children are the fruit of her happy marriage with our subject—Hallie G., an infant, Charles B., Grace M. and Fay. Charles B. died when two years old.

In our subject his native township sees one who is an honor to its citizenship, both in public and in private life, as his career has been without a stain. His manly, honest, straightforward disposition has secured him the confidence of his fellowmen and he has proved an invaluable civic official. He has been Tax Collector for two years, and has been School Director, taking much interest in educational matters. He was elected Supervisor of Newell Township in the spring of 1887 and served with great credit to himself and the community. During his term of office an investigation was made into the affairs of some of the county offices and a shortage was discovered of $3,800. One of the county officials offered to compromise by paying into the treasury $2,000. Our subject with but one other of the supervisors voted not to accept the amount, failing to see why a shortage of $3,800 should be settled for scarcely more than half of the amount. Mr. Robertson had the appointment of one of the grand jurors and he gave him special instruction to do all in his power to find an indictment against the guilty parties, and if unable to do so, then to use his influence to have the entire Board of Supervisors indicted, as all but two had voted to accept the $2,000 offered in settlement of the deficit. An indictment was found against the guilty officials, and but one was cleared of implication in the affair; the others reimbursed the county for the full amount. Mr. Robertson is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., being Vice-Grand of Illini Lodge, No. 240. He and his wife are true Christians, and valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been Trustee.

REV. FRANCIS A. POETTKEN, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, came to Danville in September, 1886, and is discharging the duties of his calling with that conscientious fidelity which has gained him the confidence and esteem of all with whom he is associated. He is a native of the Prussian province of Westphalia, and was born in the town of Muenster, June 2, 1838. He received a thorough education in his native tongue, and was ordained as a priest Nov. 11, 1864, at Mentz. Subsequently, until 1875, he officiated as pastor of different churches in Germany, and in September, that year, came to the United States.

The church edifice in which the congregation of St. Joseph's worship, is a handsome brick structure located on Green street. It was first opened for services in 1867, under the pastorate of Rev. M. Rosenbauer. In 1886 the building was enlarged, and a steeple added. It was consecrated Aug. 1, 1886, by Rt. Rev. Bishop Spaulding, of Peoria. It belongs to the Peoria Diocese, and has a membership of ninety families. A parochial school was established in 1875, and is now under the charge



PROPERTY OF JAMES BARNETT, INDIANOLA.

RESIDENCE OF ANDREW GUTHRIE, SEC. 25. SIDELL TP. VERMILION CO.

of the Franciscan Sisters, with an attendance of sixty-five pupils.

In connection with St. Joseph's Church there is St. Joseph's Benevolent Society, which was organized in 1877. The following named priests have at different times officiated in this parish: Rev. Anton Reck, now deceased, Henry Koehne, William Kuchenbuch, Thomas Frouenkefer, deceased, Peter Joseph Schmal, Peter Joseph Gerhardy, C. Schurtz, Bernhard Wenning, deceased, and Father Poettken.

A very important institution in connection with this church, and known as St. Elizabeth Hospital, was established in 1881, and the building it now occupies was erected in 1888. This is a handsome brick structure, three stories in height, with basement, covering a area of 49x102 feet and with its finishings and furnishings is a most valuable piece of property. It is in charge of fourteen Franciscan Sisters, and at present accommodates thirty patients.

JAMES BARNETT is one of the leading business men of Indianola. He owns and operates an extensive livery, sales and boarding stable, and has acquired a reputation in his business that is praiseworthy. He also owns a beautiful farm of 222 acres, which he carries on in connection with his other business. On this farm is a pleasant commodious residence, which is illustrated by a fine view given elsewhere in this work, and which is surrounded by stately trees and gardens of beautiful flowers.

Mr. Barnett is the son of James Barnett, who was a native of Kentucky, and settled in Illinois in 1828. The father was married twice, the first time to Miss Conway, by whom he had five children; while his second wife, the mother of the one of whom this sketch is written, was named Rosa Neil. He became the owner of about 600 acres of land, and was one of the most prominent farmers in this part of the country. His ancestors were from Ireland, and after coming to America settled in Pennsylvania, away back in Colonial times. The father of James Barnett, Sr., was born in the State named, and was there married to Miss Delila Davis, of Welsh lineage. The father of our subject died in 1866, while his second wife died the same year, at the age of sixty-seven years. She was the mother of seven children, whose names follow: Emily, Eliza, Lenora, Mary, Willis, James and Harris.

James Barnett was born April 11, 1845, on the old Barnett homestead, where he was reared to manhood. He attended the common schools, working alternately on his father's farm, thus acquiring his knowledge of agriculture and of horses, which has served him well. In 1874 he was married to Miss Lucinda Martin, a native of Douglas County, Ill., and a daughter of John and Mary (Wheeler) Martin, the latter of whom were natives of Athens County, Ohio. John Martin was married three times, Mrs. Barnett being a child of the first marriage. His children are as follows: Susannah, John, Joseph, Margaret, Nancy, Levi, Isaac, Mary and Lucinda. Mrs. Barnett was but four years old when her mother died. Eight children were born to her father's second union, and by his third marriage he was the father of one child.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Barnett resided on the old homestead, where they met all the responsibilities thrust upon them with characteristic industry and intelligence. He has since added to the old farm, so that now it is a beautiful place of about 222 acres. In 1878 Mr. and Mrs. Barnett removed to Jewell County, Kan., where they owned a quarter section of land. This move was made on account of Mrs. Barnett's health, and while there she improved greatly. In the meantime the Kansas land rose in value, so much so, that they concluded to dispose of it, which they did to a good advantage and returned to Illinois, where they have since resided. They have an interesting family of five children, whose names are: Rose A., Wilbur J., Armilda Pearl, Edith E. and Glenwood.

Mrs. Barnett belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Indianola, and is always found at the front in anything that will forward the interests of her chosen faith. Mr. Barnett is a member of Vermilion Lodge No. 265, A. F. & A. M., and of the Modern Woodmen. Politically there is no more ardent Republican in the State than he. Mrs. Barnett is one of the best of neighbors, and tenderest

of mothers. She is justly proud of her family, and of her home, while the interior of the latter shows that the hand of the mistress is never idle.

ANDREW GUTHRIE is one of the prominent and well-to-do farmers of Sidell Township, where he owns and operates eighty acres of well-improved land on section 25. His father and mother, George and Margaret Guthrie, were born in Ireland. The poverty and reign of landlordism in that country is one of the great causes of its people coming to America. Here if they are industrious and sober they can find occupation for themselves and land for their children, and in pursuance of this object, the elder Guthrie concluded to leave his native country and seek the more hospitable shores of America. He first settled in Pennsylvania, where he was married, and later, about 1850, he came to Carroll Township, Vermilion County, where he lived on his farm until death called him away, at the age of seventy-three years. His wife died at the same age. They had ten children, of whom five were sons and five daughters, and but three of these are now living, namely: Thomas, Andrew and Sarah. Thomas resides in Sidell Township, and is prospering; Sarah married George Powell, and is residing at Danville.

Andrew Guthrie was born July 6, 1826, in Washington County, Pa., twenty-four miles south of Pittsburgh. He grew to manhood in that country, and married Miss Rachael Reynolds, a native of Fayette County, Pa. He lived in that State two years after marriage, until in 1854, he heard of the wonderful resources of this part of Illinois, he concluded to remove here, and upon his arrival settled in Vermilion County where for a few years he was obliged, on account of the lack of means, to rent a farm. But industry and honesty will win. In 1873 he found himself able to buy forty acres of land, and to which he has since added another forty. His farm, though not large, yields good returns upon the investment, and is a model in every respect, as its owner does nothing at all but that which he can do well. He has erected a commodious residence on his homestead, and we are pleased to present on another page a fine view of this pleasant country home.

Mr. and Mrs. Guthrie have six children: Mary E., Ella, Wilbur, George, Samuel and Ernest. Mary E. married Abner Orr, who is a large farmer of Clark County, Ill. They have six children, and all are well-to-do; Ella and Wilbur are at home with their parents; George is a carpenter, and is living in California; Samuel is a telegraph operator at Allerton; while Ernest is at home attending school. Mr. Guthrie has taken a great interest in educational matters, and is always found ready to do anything that will benefit the common schools. Mrs. Guthrie was a teacher, and held a first-grade certificate in Vermilion and Edgar counties, this State. They are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and largely aided in building the edifice in which they worship. In 1869 Mr. Guthrie had the misfortune to lose an eye, but otherwise he is in perfect health and strength.

Mr. Guthrie is an adherent, mainly, to Democratic principles, but when he votes he scrutinizes the candidates' record and qualifications, and then invariably votes for the best man. He is one of the best men of his township, and is held in high esteem by his neighbors.

WILLIAM REES. There is a goodly representation of the peaceable Friends in Elwood Township, and among them the subject of this notice is one of the prominent members. He is a man justly proud of his ancestry, who made for themselves a good record, and has inherited from them many excellent traits of character. His life-long occupation has been that of a farmer, and he is at present located on section 24 in Elwood Township. Here by his industry and perseverance he has made good use of his time, built up a very desirable home and accumulated a competence for his declining years.

Our subject was born in Greene County, East Tennessee, April 16, 1819, and is the son of Will-

iam Rees, Jr., who was born near Richmond, Va., and who died many years ago. The paternal grandfather of our subject was also William Rees, who removed with his family to Guilford County, N. C., about 1771, when his son William was but two years old and prior to the Revolutionary War. The family were at one time within three miles of the battle-ground of Guilford Court-house and heard the report of cannon and musketry at that battle. The army, however, moved on, but for some time the cannonading could still be heard.

William Rees, Sr., the grandfather of our subject, was also a native of Virginia and the son of Thomas Rees, who emigrated from Wales soon after his marriage and a short time before his son William was born. The parents of Thomas Rees were of the Saxon race. Thomas was married in his native country to Miss Mary Bowen, and they immediately set sail for America. Upon their arrival they settled near Richmond, Va., and became the parents of four sons, William, Robert, Solomon and David. William married Miss Charity Dillon, of Irish ancestry, and by her became the father of seven children, Moses, William, James, John, Mary, Margaret and a daughter whose name does not appear. Thomas Rees lived to be 105 years old.

The father of our subject was the second child of his parents and upon reaching manhood was married to Miss Susanna Jones, a native of Virginia, who was taken by her parents to Tennessee when but a child. There were seven other children in the family, three of whom are living: Mary, Mrs. Bales; Rachel, who is unmarried, and our subject, who was the youngest born; the others, who all lived to mature years, were named respectively, Charity, Deborah, John, James and Jane.

Our subject came to this county in 1830, settling in Elwood Township, where he has since lived. In the following winter occurred the deep snow which fell two feet on the level and when nearly all the deer and wolves were frozen to death. The Rees family experienced all the hardships and difficulties of pioneer life, living far from mill and market and struggling for a number of years to make both ends meet. Their grinding was frequently done in a horse-mill. Three days after his arrival our subject received a wound on his right knee and still carries the scar, by reason of an injury in a horse-mill.

Young Rees studied his first lessons at the subscription schools, conducted in a log cabin, with slab seats and desks set up on rude wooden legs, with a clapboard roof, a huge fireplace extending nearly across one end of the building and the chimney built outside of clay and sticks. Window glass was too expensive or unattainable in those days and in its place there was used greased paper for panes. The system of instruction was conducted in a manner corresponding to the time and place. Our subject remained at the farm assisting his father in its development until ready to establish a home of his own.

The marriage of William Rees and Miss Rebecca Hester was celebrated at the bride's home in Elwood Township, Nov. 7, 1843. This lady was the daughter of Thomas Hester and a sister of William Hester, whose biography appears on another page. She was born in Randolph County, Ind., Jan. 23, 1824, and removed with her parent to Tazewell well County this State, in 1829. Six years later, in 1835, they came to this county. Ten of the thirteen children born of this union are still living, viz: Levi, Martha, Mary, Sarah, Thomas, Sibyl, Perry O., Omar H. and Bertram.

Levi Rees was married to Miss Rebecca A. Parker. At an early age he exhibited an uncommonly bright mind of a deeply religious turn, and he is now pastor of the Friends' Church in Indianapolis; he has no children. Martha married Mr. Seth Haworth, who is now deceased, and lives near her father. She is the mother of five children, only one of whom is living, Anna L.; Mary is the wife of Thomas Holliday, of Douglas County, this State, and is the mother of three children, Grace, Alice and Lizzie; Sarah is the wife of Pleasant Cook, of Champaign County, and they have two children, Lewis and Arthur; Thomas married Miss Florence Elliott, and lives in Carroll Township; they had one child, Lucille, deceased. Sibyl married Zimri Haworth, of Elwood Township, and they have two children, Mary and Albert.

The Rees homestead includes ninety-two acres of choice land which, under the careful management

of its proprietor, is the source of a good income. Our subject is a stanch Republican politically but has never sought office, and in religious matters belongs to the Society of Friends. His father was born in 1769 and voted for Washington at his second election for President. He subsequently voted for both of the Adamses and was always a Whig politically.

ALEXANDER D. OWEN, a farmer widely and favorably known, and living in Grant Township, was born in Washington County, Ohio, Sept. 6, 1845, and came to this State after his marriage in 1869. His great-grandmother, Mary (Gardner) Owen was the first white woman who ever crossed the Ohio River and set foot upon the soil of the Imperial State of that name, and her history is given in its annals. James Owen and his wife Mary (Gardner) Owen, were the great-grandparents of Alexander D., our subject. They were both natives of Rhode Island and left their home in South Kingston, R. I., in 1798, for the territory of Ohio. They settled at Fort Harmer, now the site of Marietta, Ohio, landing there June 5, 1798—in company with Gen. James Varnum. As before stated Mrs. Owen was the first white woman to settle in the Northwest Territory. Her son, Daniel Owen, grandfather of Alexander D., was therefore one of the early settlers of Washington County, Ohio, and became the owner of a farm on the Muskingum River, on which he lived until his death It was near what was then known as Ft. Harmer, where Marietta now stands. His wife also died at that place.

Their son, Vincent, was the father of the subject of this sketch and was born at the above mentioned place in 1811. He likewise was a farmer and a life-long resident of his native county, where he died in 1876 aged sixty-five years. He was a stock dealer and raiser as well as farmer, and accumulated a handsome competency as a result of his industry and correct business habits. He was married to Jane Adams, also a native of Ohio, who died several years before her husband's decease, leaving a family of nine children, of whom but two are now living—Alexander D. and a sister, Louisa, wife of D. P. Adams, a plumber, now residing in Washington County, Ohio. Three of the sons were in the Union army and one died in the service at Pulaski, Tenn. The others died after the war at their homes, the one in Ohio and the other in West Virginia.

Alexander D. Owen was reared on the farm where he was born, living there until January, 1863, when at the age of eighteen years, he too, offered his services to his country, enlisting in Company L, 1st Ohio Cavalry, with which he served until Dec. 1865. His company served as Gen. Thomas' body guard and was also on detailed duty as despatch-bearers, carrying messages along the lines, especially during engagements, the service being especially hazardous. They were so engaged at Lookout Mountain, Buzzard's Roost, Macon, Ga,. Dallas, Ala., Peach Tree Creek, where Gen. Harrison ascended the first step that led to the White House: Three Forks and in all engagements of that army down to Atlanta. After peace was declared the company was ordered to Nashville, Tenn., where they were on duty until December, 1865, when they were mustered out. Being honorably discharged, Mr. Owen returned to his home and resumed work on the farm, remaining there until his marriage Dec. 2, 1868, to Miss Catherine Rubrake, daughter of Jacob and Catherine Rubrake, natives of Germany, who emigrated to this country after their marriage, over forty years ago. The father died in Noble County, Ohio, in March 1888 aged nearly seventy-five years, while the mother is still living at the same place and is now about sixty-five years old.

In February following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Owen removed to Logan County, Ill., where they lived for seven years, then came to the place he now owns on section 5, in Grant Township, where he has a good farm of eighty acres, on which he has built a fine residence. All the improvements on the place have been made by himself, as his land when purchased was nothing but raw prairie. To-day it is one of the best improved and most desirable pieces of property in this part of the county. It is all thoroughly tiled, fenced, and in a high state

of cultivation. Beside his general farming, Mr. Owen gives considerable attention to dairying in which he has met with success.

Mr. Owen is a member of Harmon Post No. 115 G. A. R. of Hoopeston, and both he and his wife are communicants of the First Baptist Church of that place. In politics he is a Democrat. By the people who know him, Mr. Owen is spoken of as an upright, honorable and trustworthy man, and a good citizen, who can always be depended upon to do just what he promises, and he justly merits the respect and confidence of his neighbor.

We invite the attention of our numerous readers to a handsome engraving of the elegant home and surroundings on the farm of Mr. Owen.

GEORGE M. SULLIVAN is the enterprising and industrious Pathmaster of Sidell, which position he has held for the long period of eleven years. A native of the Blue Grass State, he was born Sept. 16, 1836, and there spent his childhood days amid its pioneer scenes, attending the subscription schools in a log house, with its seats and desks made of slabs and the other furnishings and finishings corresponding to that period. He was harnessed into work at an early age, following the plow when a lad of nine years, and thus were formed within him those habits of industry which have made of him a wealthy and successful man.

In 1851 the Sullivan family, leaving Kentucky, emigrated to Decatur County, Ind., and our subject engaged first in breaking land upon the new farm. After a time, however, longing for a change of occupation, he secured a position as Freight Agent with the Indianapolis & Cincinnati Railroad Company, and was entrusted with the purchase of ties, timber and general construction lumber, being in the employ of this company about eight years. In the meantime he was married, in 1861, to Miss Lucinda Ann Baker, who was then an attractive young lady of nineteen years.

In 1866 Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan settled on a farm in Shelby County, Ind., where they lived two years. In 1868 they came to this county, and Mr. Sullivan rented a farm of 160 acres in Sidell Township from Mr. Oakwood. He was prospered in his labors as a tiller of the soil, and in 1871 purchased forty acres of raw land on section 30. Upon this he effected some improvements, and three years later sold it to good advantage. Later he purchased the 100 acres on section 31, which constitutes his present homestead. To this he has given his undivided attention, with most excellent results. The land is highly productive and embellished with a set of good buildings, the dwelling being a neat frame of one and one-half stories, well fitted up with the conveniences of modern life. The outbuildings, live-stock and machinery are what might be naturally expected from a man of Mr. Sullivan's push and enterprise, and compare favorably with those of the others enterprising farmers of this section.

Seven of the ten children born to Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan are still living, viz: James H., Oliver P. and Henry A. (twins), Carrie B., Horne H., Charles W. and Arthur G. James H. married Miss Lucy Clester, and is the father of one child. He is employed as salesman for Charles Forbes, the agricultural implement dealer of Sidell, and in this capacity ranks second to no man in the county. The other children are at home with their parents. Oliver and Henry are cultivating 120 acres of rented land on section 2, making a specialty of corn. Our subject, politically, uniformly votes with the Democratic party, and with his wife is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He has held several of the township offices, giving general satisfaction in the discharge of his duties.

The parents of our subject were natives respectively of Maryland and Kentucky, the mother born in Mercer County. Her maiden name was Mary Hill, and her mother was a native of Scotland. The ten children of the parental family were named, respectively, Nancy E., John H., Louisiana, Myriana, Sarah, George Marion, our subject, Martha J., Mary E., James P. and William J. Both the grandfathers served in the Revolutionary War. Grandfather Sullivan was a Sergeant under the direct command of Gen. Washington. A fife belonging to him and used during that war, is still in possession of the family. The father of our subject died in Wash-

ington County, Ky., at about the age of sixty-one years, when George M. was a lad of eleven years. The mother died ten years later and was also sixty-one years old.

Mrs. Sullivan was born in Decatur County, Ind., and is the daughter of James H. and Louisa Bowen, the father a native of Ohio. They were the parents of six children—four daughters and two sons.

JUDGE JACOB W. WILKINS, one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Illinois, has enjoyed a large and varied experience in his profession, while his learning and dignity and the deep sense of justice he is gifted with, especially fits him to grace this honorable position. His naturally good judgment and sound learning, together with his studious habits and legal ability have long since gained for him the highest esteem of his fellow citizens and the respect of his professional brethren, while his fidelity to duty has ever been apparent in his rulings and proceedings. He is an Ohio man by birth, and was born near Newark, Licking County, June 7, 1837.

When our subject was a mere child his father decided to seek the farther West, and coming to Crawford County, Ill., settled on a farm in Licking Township, where Jacob W. lived until a youth of eighteen years. He had up to this time pursued his studies in the common schools, and by close application prepared himself for McKendree College at Lebanon, St. Clair Co., Ill. He entered this institution and for the following two years prosecuted his studies with his well known energy and thoroughness. He left the college halls in 1861 and begun the study of law under Judge John Scofield, who was afterward his law partner, residing at Marshall. At the outbreak of the Rebellion he enlisted as a Union soldier, but was soon obliged to return home on account of ill health. His patriotism, however, would not permit him to remain at home, and soon again he presented himself to the enrolling officer and joined Company K, 130th Illinois Infantry, and was mustered in as Captain. His regiment was thereafter in different divisions of the Army of the Cumberland, and later in the Department of the Gulf. It passed through the Vicksburg campaign and participated in all the battles connected therewith, after which they joined the army assigned to make the Red River expedition. Our subject was engaged in the battles of Sabine Cross Roads, Spanish Fort and Fort Blakeley, and was before Vicksburg during the siege of that city. Later he was on duty at the headquarters of Gen. Grant and served until the close of the war—a little over three years—receiving his discharge in the fall of 1865 with the rank of Major. Then returning to Marshall he completed his law studies, and was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1866. He opened an office in Marshall and commenced the regular practice of his profession, following it alone until 1867. That year he associated himself in partnership with Judge Scofield, and they remained together until 1873, when the partnership was dissolved by the election of Judge Scofield to his present high position, being also a member of the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois.

For a time our subject continued his practice singly in Marshall, then formed a partnership with a younger brother and they continued together until in June, 1879, when Mr. Wilkins was elected Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit of Illinois, the other two judges of that circuit being Judge O. L. Davis, of Danville, and C. D. Smith, of Champaign. In June, 1885, he was re-elected, and, Judge Davis retiring, Judge Wilkins took up his residence in Danville, where he has since resided. He was assigned to duty on the bench of the Appellate Court of the Fourth District in 1885, and was elected to the Supreme bench in June, 1888.

Politically, Judge Wilkins is a sound Republican, and has been of signal service to his party, frequently being sent as a delegate to the various conventions. On the 21st of September, 1865, he was married to Miss Alice Constable, who was the daughter of Judge Charles H. Constable, a man of prominence and broad attainments in legal lore. This union resulted in the birth of three children—Harry O., John Scofield and Jessie Belle. Mrs. Alice Wilkins died at her home in Marshall in

March, 1883. Her children are still living, and are being given the best advantages in the way of education and careful training.

Judge Wilkins contracted a second marriage in July, 1885, with Mrs. Sarah E. (Whitlock) Archer, daughter of Judge William C. Whitlock, of Marshall. The family residence is pleasantly located in the central part of the city, and its inmates are surrounded by all that ample means and cultivated tastes can supply. They occupy a high social position in their community. The Judge has accumulated a comfortable property.

The father of our subject was Isaac Wilkins, a native of Virginia, and born July 11, 1806. When a young man he emigrated to Licking County, Ohio, where he was married to Miss Sarah Burner in 1827. In Ohio he operated as a contractor and builder, but after his removal to Crawford County, this State, turned his attention to farming and became the owner of 320 acres of land, which he brought to a good state of cultivation. He also dealt considerably in live stock, and finally accumuluated a good property, so that he was able to retire from active labor. He died Nov. 17, 1886. His wife is still living, and a resident of Marshall. She was born in Virginia Nov. 9, 1811, and is the daughter of Henry Burner, who removed with his family to Licking County, Ohio, about the same time that the Wilkins family settled there. The parental family included nine children, five of whom are living.

WILLIAM T. STEVENS. Among other venturesome spirits who sought the frontier during the early settlement of Central Illinois came the subject of this notice, and he has made for himself a record worthy of preservation. We find him a well preserved old gentleman, approaching his three-score and ten years, having been born March 18, 1821. His native place was Rush County, Ind., and his parents were James and Susannah (Thomas) Stevens, both of excellent families, which produced names of historic fame—Alexander Stevens on one side of the house and Gen. George H. Thomas on the other. In the sketch of James H. Stevens found elsewhere in this volume, is given a more extended notice of the parental history. The family of ten children were named respectively: Lovina, William Thomas, James H., Mary A., Henderson P., Nancy, Samuel G., John A., Sarah and Stephen C.

Mr. Stevens has resided in Vermilion County for the long period of sixty years, and for forty years has occupied his present farm. There is nothing which confers dignity and stability in a larger measure than a prolonged residence in one community, especially if the career of the man has been such that he has found favor in the eyes of his fellow-men, as in the case of Mr. Stevens. He came to Illinois a child with his parents, grew up on a farm, was trained to habits of industry, and obtained a limited education in the subscription school. The tales which he could tell of pioneer life would verify the adage that "truth is stranger than fiction." For several years after the settlement of the Stevens family in this region there was no mill nearer than Terre Haute, Ind., to which one member of the family would travel on horseback, carrying his bag of corn or wheat with him, and returning in the same manner with the meal or flour. To guard against bad weather or accidents preventing the journey to the mill, they made ready what was called a hominy mortar block, being simply a large oak log, hollowed out by burning and scraping, in which they could pound their grain and thus prepare a sort of meal which could be made into bread. If not fashionable it was at least unadulterated and sweet, and formed when cooked very palatable food. They made a rude sieve out of a deer skin, in which they sifted their meal. The finer portion of this would be made into bread, and that which would not go through the sieve was made into hominy.

In due time a small mill run by horse power was established near Brooks Point, which later was succeeded by a larger mill, and the settlers felt very rich in its possession. In order to build a school house all of the people within a radius of several miles, brought in two or three logs and put up a temple of learning. The master who understood the "Rule of Three" was considered sufficiently

competent, and each head of the family would pay so much a quarter for each scholar. Thus the teacher received a part of his salary and "boarded around" for the rest.

Young Stevens, like his brothers and sisters, was required to make himself useful at an early age, and as soon as strong enough followed a breaking plow, the old "bar share," driving an ox team. He remained a member of the parental household until his marriage, which occurred in 1848, with Miss Martha, daughter of Robert Alexander, who died leaving no children. Mr. Stevens contracted a second marriage Feb. 4, 1872, with Miss Nancy, daughter of William and Susan (Ellis) Blakeney. Mr. Blakeney was an old pioneer of this county, and served in the Black-Hawk War. He was of a splendidly developed frame, and bore the reputation of being the strongest man west of the Wabash. He and his aged partner are still living, being respectively seventy-six and seventy-five years old. They occupy a neat and comfortable dwelling a few rods from the house of their daughter, Mrs. Stevens, by whom they are cared for with the most filial affection and their wants studiously looked after. They are the parents of twelve children, of whom Mrs. Stevens was the sixth in order of birth. She was born in this township, Vermilion County, May 16, 1843, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children—Ina J., Susanna and Savannah E.

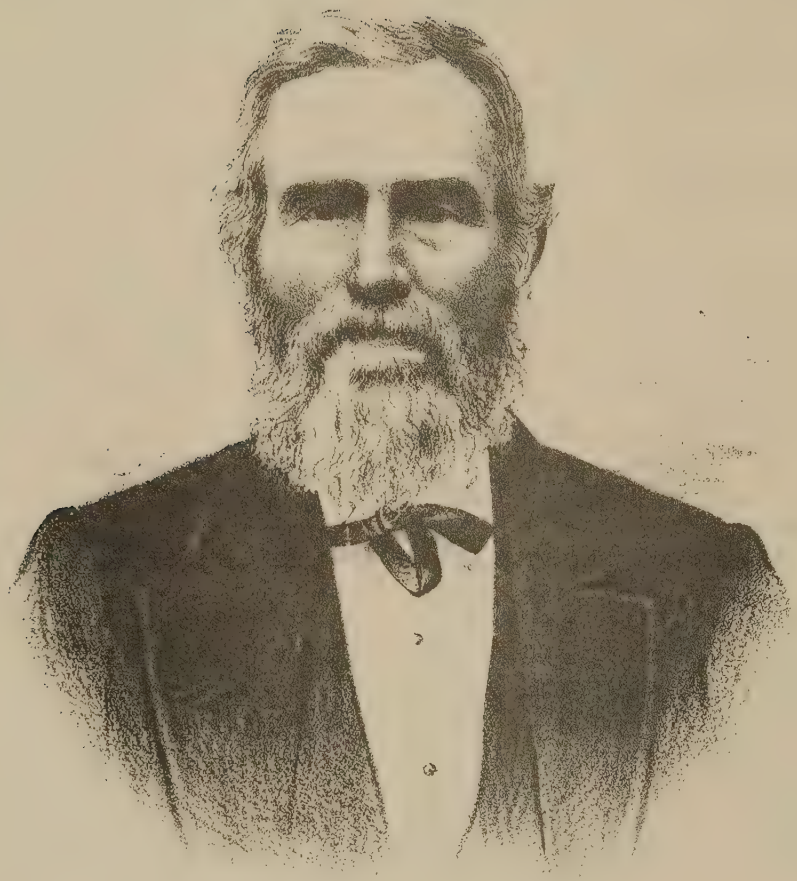
The Stevens homestead comprises 165 acres of thoroughly cultivated land, which is very valuable and a portion of which is underlaid with a rich coal deposit which has never been developed. Our subject and his amiable partner are members in good standing of the Christian Church, in which Mr. Stevens officiates as Elder. Socially, he belongs to the Masonic lodge at Catlin. He assisted in the erection of the church building at Westville and has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school four or five years. He has served on the Grand and Petit Juries, and politically is a solid Democrat, casting his first vote for Andrew Jackson. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens some time ago bound a little girl, Matilda Ann Guess, whose mother had died when she was a small child, and whose father fell in the Union service at the battle of Knoxville. The child, now a woman grown, is the wife of C. S. Downing, who is represented elsewhere in this work. There is no pleasanter place of resort in Vermilion County than the hospitable home of the Stevens family, made so as much by the prudence, good judgment and cultivated tastes of the wife as by the business capacities, resolution and perseverance of the head of the house. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens deserve honorable mention among the pioneers of Vermilion County.

SILAS MENDENHALL, a peaceful and law-abiding citizen of Elwood Township, resides at a comfortable homestead on section 13, where he pursues the even tenor of his way, making very little stir in the world and striving therein to do the least possible harm. He was born in Greene County, Ohio, May 28, 1829, and is the son of Malachi Mendenhall, who was a native of North Carolina, and spent his last years in Carroll Township, passing away years ago.

From the South, the father of our subject removed to Ohio when a small boy, whence he came to this county in 1838, and thereafter made his home in Carroll Township, where his death occurred in January, 1880. He had married in early manhood to Miss Elizabeth Stair, and to them were born ten children, five of whom are living—Joy, Frederick, Silas, our subject, James and Lewis. They were given a common-school education and Silas has always followed the occupation of a farmer.

Our subject was first married April 10, 1854, to Miss Asenath, daughter of William Maxwell and of this union there were born five children—Dora C., Frank W., Kate C., Anna M., and Hattie. Dora married Oscar Larrance, of Carroll Township, and has three children—George S., Hugh M., and Claude E. Frank married John Morris of this township, and they have three children—Ivy A., Mabel A., and Odbert A. The mother of these children departed this life Jan. 8, 1885.

Mr. Mendenhall was married a second time on March 14, 1889 to Mrs. Hannah M., widow of



James Thompson

Thomas Haworth. Mr. Mendenhall supports the principles of the Republican party, but has never been an office-seeker and prefers the quiet home life to the responsibilities connected with office. He is a member of the Society of Friends, and has followed farming all his life, giving of late considerable attention to stock-raising. His mother is still living and resides at the old homestead.

JAMES THOMPSON. Many are the hours which have been passed in a pleasant and profitable manner by the biographer, listening to the stories of the pioneers of this county, some of whom still survive and furnish a valuable link between the past and present. In looking upon them it is almost impossible to realize the toils and dangers which they encountered during the period of their early life on the frontier, the battle with the primitive soil, the disadvantage of the distant market and the numberless other difficulties which beset those intent upon building up a home from the wilderness.

The subject of this sketch is a man of large experience, and one who has watched the growth and development of central Illinois, with more than ordinary interest, as the friend of progress and all the enterprises tending to elevate the people. He has had the unspeakable satisfaction of witnessing the downfall of slavery in this country and the preservation of the Union, and in his day suffered no little on account of his sympathy with the cause of freedom. He is now quite well advanced in years and has the satisfaction of knowing that his life has been honest and upright, and that he has lived in an age, which, perhaps, has witnessed more of change and advancement than that of any other period since the world began.

The first forty-five years of the life of our subject were spent on a plantation in his native State of Kentucky, where he was born in Mason County, Aug. 13, 1818, near Maysville. He attended the subscription schools, and at the age of twenty-four was married, in 1842, to Miss Mary A. Harrison. He settled with his young wife on a plantation near Maysville. Mrs. Thompson had taught school prior to her marriage and was a lady of decided ideas. Our subject, as well as his father, was a strong Whig, and it finally became not only very unpleasant, but absolutely dangerous for him to remain in his native State, especially after the outbreak of the Rebellion. He was finally obliged to flee with his wife and children for safety, and crossing the Ohio River made his way to Carroll Township, this county. That period of his life, more than any other, brought out the true character of the man, and developed the fact that he would sacrifice his property rather than his principles, and he consequently met with great loss. Three or four years after coming to this county he purchased a tract of land which he sold later and finally removed to Sidell Township, where he now owns two farms. That upon which he resides comprises 160 acres and is supplied with very good buildings. He has in all 344 acres of fine, well-cultivated land. Mr. Thompson is spending his declining years, retired from active labor and in the enjoyment of a competence.

Of the seven interesting children born to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, the eldest son, John J., died when a promising young man of twenty-four years; Elvira is the widow of George Clarkson, who is represented elsewhere in this work, she has four children—Henry Thomas, Mary J., Alice B., and George James; Charles M., married Miss Lucy Sconce, is a resident of Sidell Township, and the father of one child—Mary C.; Mary J. became the wife of John S. Iles, a farmer of Sidell Township, and has three children—Ivory V., Jacob J., and Grace A.; William H. died at the age of seven years; Joseph H. married Viola Parrish and is a resident of Sidell Township; he is represented elsewhere in this work; Benjamin A. died when twenty-one months old.

Mr. Thompson is now as strong a Republican as he was a Whig in the early days, and has frequently served as a delegate to the various conventions. Both he and his wife are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Mr. Thompson has served as School Director in his District and has taken a warm interest in educational matters. He is the offspring of an excellent family, being the

son of John and Eliza (Cole) Thompson, the father born in Washington County, Pa., and the mother in Mason County, Ky.; they were married in the Blue Grass State, and the father was a farmer by occupation. He died in 1848, when about sixty-five years old. The mother survived her husband for the long period of twenty-eight years, dying in 1876, when about eighty-four years old. Benjamin Cole, the maternal grandfather of our subject, served in the Revolutionary War and was wounded at the battle of Brandywine.

Mrs. Thompson is the daughter of Alfred and Sarah (Vice) Harrison, the former a native of Lewis County, Ky. Her paternal grandfather, John Harrison, was a native of Virginia. The parents of Mrs. Thompson, spent their entire lives in Kentucky, the father dying when a young man of thirty-five years, and the mother at the age of sixty-four. They had a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters of whom Mrs. Thompson was the eldest, she being born May 13, 1825.

An excellent portrait of this worthy citizen and well-known resident of Sidell Township is presented on another page of this ALBUM, and will be highly valued both by the younger generation and the sturdy old pioneers of the county.

JOHN R. NEWKIRK, an insurance agent and a leading undertaker of Indianola, is also an old and faithful public servant, having served in various capacities for many years. He has held the offices of Collector, Assessor and Justice of the Peace, filling these positions with ability and fidelity, and for the past thirty-one years has been a resident of the State of Illinois.

Mr. Newkirk was born in Somerset Township, Washington Co., Pa., on Dec. 12, 1827. His father, Tunis Newkirk, and mother, Jane Rainey, were also natives of the same place as their son. His grandfather, Newkirk, was a native of Virginia, where he entered land from the government immediately succeeding the Revolutionary War. The Newkirks are of German extraction, while the Rainey family were English. The elder Newkirks died in Pennsylvania, the father being seventy-two years old at the date of his death, while the mother was forty-two years old when she died. She left eight children, seven of whom grew to maturity. Their names are: Isaac J., Eliza, and. Sarah A., deceased. John R., Rhoda A., Carolina O., deceased, and William. John R., learned the trade of cabinet-making and undertaking and became very proficient in his calling. His ingenuity and industry aided him in soon mastering the intricacies of his trade, so that he was able to start out in life, master of the situation.

On Dec. 12, 1854, Mr. Newkirk married Miss Elizabeth Neblick. He remained in Pennsylvania until 1857. At this time he concluded that the West offered a better field for his trade and in pursuance of that idea, he concluded to emigrate to Illinois. The journey from his native State to Vermilion County was made the entire distance, in wagons. He located on the east side of Sidell Township, on what is now called the Rowand farm, which he rented for five years, afterwards buying twenty acres and living on that for five years. He rented Barnett's farm for two years, at the expiration of which time he came to Indianola and here he has resided since, working at his trade and prosecuting the insurance business in a manner that has won for him success. He is the father of four children: Lolie J., Wilmot, Albertis and Alaquinpa. Lolie married E. E. Weaver, who is a leading merchant of Emporia, Kan; Wilmot married Dora Smick and is residing at Cushman, Edgar Co., Ill. They have two children—Cassius and Maud; Albert is engaged in the restaurant business; Alaquinpa married Edward McVey, who is residing in Pittsburg, Pa., where he is an expert in the electric light business.

Mr. Newkirk, as before indicated, has served in various public capacities, and his terms as Assessor and Collector have covered the period of twelve years. He is now serving as Justice of the Peace. These matters of record are pointed out to exhibit the esteem in which he is held by his fellow-citizens. He has been a member of the Masonic Order since he became of age and is enthusiastic in everything

pertaining to that ancient organization. The Democratic party has no more faithful follower than he, as he believes that true Democracy teaches the correct principles for the administration of the government. He believes that the leaders of his party are better fitted to choose candidates than anyone else, and therefore, usually votes the straight ticket. He has inherited his honesty and patriotism for the reason that his ancestors were of the very best people of their section of the country.

GEORGE F. SANDERS is one of the farmers of Elwood Township, who exhibit great interest in all benevolent enterprises, and in matters that look to the education of the rising generation. His farm, which is situated on section 10, is improved by the best methods known to modern agriculture, and the buildings on it are of the best, the dwelling house, especially, being noticeable for its fine appearance and its comfortable arrangement. The place is well tiled and fenced.

Mr. Sanders was born in Pittsylvania County, Va., on Feb. 11, 1836, where his father, Coleman Sanders, was also born. His mother was a native of the same place and was born Aug. 15, 1815. They were the parents of fifteen children, seven of whom are living: George F., Daniel, Elizabeth, Ruth, Virginia, Amos, and Maria. One daughter, Susan, died after having attained maturity. Mr. Sanders had two uncles, James and Leonard Sanders, who were soldiers in the War of 1812, the latter holding the commission of captain. Mr. Sanders' maternal grandfather, Stephen Sea, also fought in the War of 1812, and his remains are interred at Yankee Point, where his grave is decorated each Memorial Day.

Mr. Sanders came with his parents to Eugene, Ind., in the fall of 1840, when Gen. W. H. Harrison was a candidate for president. The excitement of that memorable campaign, with its log cabins, coon skins and hard cider, is vividly recalled by him, and especially the ceremonies which occurred at Terre Haute. He was in his fifth year at the time and was glad to have the honor to vote for the grandson of Gen. Harrison for the same high office forty-four years later. The family lived in Vermillion County, Ind., until Feb. 1, 1855, when they came to Elwood Township, settling on section 10, where the subject of this sketch now resides. Here he owns 240 acres of land and is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He takes great pride in raising the best of cattle and horses, and in this way has made a great deal of money. He is a thorough and energetic farmer and does everything well.

On June the 4th, 1856, Mr. Sanders was united in marriage to Nancy J. Shires, daughter of James and Ruth Shires, the latter deceased. There are four generations living in Mr. Sanders' house. Politically he votes the Republican ticket, and has held the office of Highway Commissioner for five years, but has never sought an office. His family are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and while Mr. Sanders is not a member of any denomination, he gives liberally to the support of the gospel and every charitable purpose. While he was a boy he was obliged to work early and late, and therefore his advantages to secure an education were limited. He now sees where the benefits of a school can aid the rising generation, and he therefore does everything in his power to promote educational enterprises. By his own efforts he has risen from poverty to the position of a wealthy farmer, as a survey of his fine farms and buildings will demonstrate. Mr. Sanders is one of the best citizens of his neighborhood, and by the people who are best acquainted with him he is held in the highest estimation.

EMANUEL SNYDER. One of the best regulated farms in Carroll Township belongs to the subject of this notice, and where with his large and interesting family he is extracting much comfort out of life. Providence has blest him in his labors and enabled him to accumulate a good property, while he is endowed with the qualities which have inspired him to an upright life and

gained him the esteem and confidence of his fellow-men. He owns and occupies 273 acres of choice land on sections 9 and 10, which with its improvements constitutes a fine estate, upon which is paid in taxes a round sum annually.

Our subject was born in Clay Township, Fairfield Co., Ohio, May 6, 1830, and was there reared to man's estate, attending the common school, and becoming familiar with the various employments of rural life. When a young man of twenty-three years, he was married, in 1853, to Miss Lovina Glick, a native of the same county as her husband, and born in Bloom Township. A year later the young people removed to Bartholomew County, Ind., where Mr. Snyder purchased a farm, where he lived five years. Later he removed to Tippecanoe County, where he sojourned seven years and came thence, in 1867, to this county, settling on his present farm, to which he has since added.

Mr. Snyder has almost rebuilt his present residence, which is large and commodious, admirably adapted to the convenience of the inmates. His barns and sheds are substantial structures like the dwelling, with little ornamentation, to be sure, but amply adapted to health and comfort. Much of the labor upon them has been done by his own hands. The fences are kept in good order, the fields well tilled, and everything about the premises is indicative of thrift and good management. Mr. Snyder makes a specialty of live-stock, Short-horn cattle, Poland-China swine and good horses, and has raised a great deal of winter wheat. He has done a large amount of very hard work, and while in the Hoosier State, engaged considerably in threshing, log-rolling, etc. He is at present interested in bee-keeping, having about forty-six swarms, which produce a very fine quality of honey, with which the family is amply supplied the year around.

The household circle of our subject and his wife was completed by the birth of ten children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Catherine, became the wife of Thomas Bone, of Champaign County, and died in 1888; Simon married Miss Lydia Jones, and they are living in Carroll Township; they have two children—Emery and Edith. Martha A. is the wife of P. Lawrence, a farmer of Carroll Township; Henry D. married Miss Jane Hinton; they have one child, and live at the home farm. Monroe is married and farming in Broadland, Champaign County; Jonathan, William, Erma, Perry and Maude remain at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder are members in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and our subject, politically, is an uncompromising Democrat.

The parents of our subject were Henry and Elizabeth (Tosh) Snyder, natives of Germany, who came to America after their marriage. The father had settled in Fairfield County, that State, about 1840, and there both parents spent their after lives, Mr. Snyder dying at the age of seventy-five years, and the mother at the age of eighty, in 1878, ten years after the decease of her husband. Six of their children grew to mature years, viz.: Philip, Henry, George, Fred, Emanuel and Elizabeth.

JOHN W. NEWLIN, a native-born citizen of this county, and a veteran of the late Civil War, in which he consecrated the opening years of his manhood to the service of his country, and won an honorable record as a fearless, patriotic soldier, being promoted from the ranks—is to-day one of the leading citizens of Catlin Township and one of its most able and popular civic officials. He has a good farm on section 34 and a fine residence near Catlin village, and is actively engaged in buying, feeding and shipping stock.

He is derived from worthy parentage and comes of good old pioneer stock. His father, Thomas B. Newlin, is supposed to have been born in Harrison County, Va., and his mother, whose maiden name was Angeline Griffith, was born in Wayne County, Ind. Her father was Stephen Griffith, one of the earliest settlers of this county, coming here in 1826, the mother of subject being then about nine years old. The father of our subject had attained manhood when he accompanied his father, John Newlin, to this county in 1837, coming from Champaign County, Ohio, and settling in Catlin

Township, and thus becoming pioneers of this place in an early day of its settlement. After marriage the parents of subject settled in Oakwood Township, where the father carried on his occupation as a farmer for many years, being an important factor in developing the agricultural resources of that township. In 1866 he and his wife removed to Kansas, but in 1872 they returned to this county and established themselves in Danville, where he died in February, 1877, thus closing a life that had been an exemplary one and leaving the precious legacy of an honorable name to its descendants. The mother of subject makes her home in Kansas and is held in high respect in her community as a woman of true worth and fine character.

Our subject was the eldest of seven children, and he was born June 13, 1840, in what is now known as Oakwood Township. He was reared to man's estate on his father's farm and there obtained that thorough training in agricultural pursuits that has contributed so much to his success in later years. He obtained an excellent education in the common schools of Vermilion County and was thus well equipped to start out in life on his own responsibility. He was not twenty-one years of age when the great Rebellion broke out, and while watching its course with intense interest he longed with patriotic ardor to fling himself into the cause and aid in fighting his country's battles. In a short time he was enabled to leave home and enter the army, and in July, 1861, the month following that in which he became of age, he enlisted in Company I, 35th Illinois Infantry, and served with great credit till September, 1864, a period of more than three years. He took part in the battles of Pea Ridge (Ark.), Stone River, Siege of Corinth, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, etc., and was with Gen. Sherman on his famous march to the sea. He was slightly wounded at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, and was twice taken prisoner but managed to elude the vigilance of his captors and make his escape both times. That his services were of value on the field is shown by the fact that he was mustered out at Springfield with the rank of Sergeant, he having received deserved promotion for gallant conduct in the face of the enemy.

After retiring from the army Mr. Newlin returned to his native township and there engaged in farming and also in teaching. After assuming the cares and responsibilities of married life he took his bride to Winterset, Iowa, where they established their home. He engaged in agriculture there one year, and at the expiration of that time returned to this county with his family, and has since resided in Catlin Township, where he owns a choice farm of eighty acres, and, as before mentioned, is quite extensively engaged in the stock business.

Mr. Newlin has been blessed by a good wife, who has not only added to his happiness but has aided and encouraged him in his work, as a sensible, practical woman alone could do. They were united in marriage Sept. 19, 1865. Her maiden name was Ivea E. Taylor, and she is a daughter of the late Thomas A. Taylor, Sr., and his wife Ivea (Allen) Taylor. They came to this county in 1853 and located in Catlin Township, where he died Sept. 19, 1876. Mrs. Taylor survives him and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Smith. Mrs. Newlin was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., Feb. 2, 1845, and received from her mother careful instruction in all household duties, so that when she came to have a home of her own she was amply able to manage it. Five children have been born to her and our subject, as follows: Tempie J., Nora, Mildred, Lena, Lowell T.

Mr. Newlin possesses a clear head, sound business faculties, a strong will and a stable character, which traits, with his well known incorruptibility, render him one of the best township officials, and he has held some of the most important and responsible local public offices. He has been Supervisor of Catlin Township three terms, has been Assessor and Collector and has also been an incumbent of the various school offices. He is a man of exceptional public spirit, always favoring all feasible plans for the advancement of the township or county. He is a Republican to the heart's core, taking an active part in political matters, although his official course is never biased by party preferences, and he stanchly supports those principles for which he fought so nobly in days of yore. He is identified with the A. F. & A. M. as a member of

Catlin Lodge, No. 285; Vermilion Chapter, No. 89, and Athelstan Commandery, No. 45. He and his wife are zealous members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and take an active interest in Sunday-school work. He has been elected Elder of the church but did not feel inclined to serve in that capacity.

FERDINAND M. HACKER. This gentleman came to Danville in 1853, when it was only a small place, and the country roundabout was still in a wild, sparcely settled condition, deer in the vicinity, and squirrels and rabbits and other game abounding near the city. Since that time he has been closely identified with the industrial interests of this part of Vermilion County, both as a practical farmer and as a skilled mechanic. He now devotes the most of his time to the cultivation of his highly productive, well-improved farm in this township.

Our subject is of foreign birth, a representative of the German nationality, born in the province of Pomerania, Prussia, Oct. 18, 1831. His father John Hacker, and his grandfather, Joseph Hacker, were natives of Mecklenburg, the latter being a life-long resident of that province. The father was reared in the land of his nativity, and when a young man was an overseer on a large estate belonging to some person of wealth. He was but eleven years old when the great Napoleon invaded his native place and he was drafted into the service of the French, and made to drive a team a short time. He went from Mecklenburg to Prussia, and was a resident there, engaged there as before mentioned, till 1852. In September of that year, accompanied by his wife and the four children that had been born to them, he set sail from Hamburg and going to Liverpool, Eng., embarked on board of an American-bound vessel, and landed in New York on the day of the National Thanksgiving, after being forty-six days on the ocean. The fares had been paid to Wisconsin, but the family were swindled out of their tickets, and having no money concluded not to go further than Chicago, and there the father and the children that were large enough, found work. In 1853 Mr. Hacker, Sr., made the acquaintance of Judge Pearson, who induced him and other families to come to Danville, giving to each, who would build a house, a lot, and he and his family started for this place in the month of July, that year, coming with a horse and wagon and taking their household goods along. The father built a log house here and was a resident of this city till his death in 1881, at the venerable age of eighty-two years. Thus he was an interested witness of much of the growth of this flourishing, busy city, and aided in bringing about the great change. The maiden name of his wife was Dorathe Lewerenz, and she was a native of Pomerania. She is now a welcome inmate of the household of our subject, and has attained the advanced age of seventy-eight years. There were six children born to her and her husband: Ferdinand M.; Fred C., living in Danville; Charles, in Newport, Ind.; Minnie married John Balls, and afterward died. Two died in Germany.

Ferdinand, of whom we write, attended school in his native place quite steadily until he was fourteen years old, and as is the custom of his church, was then confirmed, and was afterward employed with his father. In 1847 he commenced to learn the cabinet-maker's trade, his father paying $24 cash for that privilege, and he received his board during the three years he served. At the expiration of that time he did journeyman work a few months, and then, in 1852, came to America with his parents. After coming to this country he worked for a time in a box-factory in Chicago, and in 1853, after settling in Danville, went to work at the carpenter's trade till the fall of the year, and then engaged at his old calling as cabinet-maker, doing journeyman work till 1855. In that year he went to Fithian Station and worked on a farm a few months, and then returned to town and worked at his trade till 1856. After that he was actively and prosperously engaged as a carpenter, and was a resident of Danville till 1870, when he bought the farm where he now resides. On this he has made many fine improvements, greatly increasing its value, has erected a good set of frame buildings, and has brought the land to an excellent state of cultivation so that it is highly productive, yielding

bountiful harvests in repayment for his toil. Here he and his family have a pleasant, cosy home, and its generous hospitalities are appreciated by the weary stranger who happens within their gates.

Mr. Hacker was married Aug. 13, 1854, to Anna Beal, a native of Germany, who came to America when quite young. To them came seven children—Albert, Mary, Charles, Martin, Edward, John and Emma. This happy home circle was invaded by death in 1874, and the wife and mother was taken from her sorrowing family and friends.

Mr. Hacker was married to his present wife in 1876, and their peaceful wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of three children—Annie, Ferdinand B. and Ida May. Mrs. Hacker's maiden name was Emma Kaley Sheets, and she was born in Reading, Burks Co., Pa.

Mr. Hacker stands well in this community as a man and as a citizen, and in all the relations of life that he has been called on to fill, as son, husband, father and neighbor, he has done his duty, and no one can bring aught against his character or his record, which are stainless. That he has a comfortable home he owes to his incessant industry, directed by sound common sense and excellent judgment. Mr. Hacker has a deeply religious nature, and in him the Lutheran Church finds one of its most active supporters, he having been one of the first members of the denomination in Danville. He belongs to the Fire Beck Lodge No. 499, I. O. O. F., and to the Turner Society.

BUFORD TAYLOR, M. D., one of the favorite sons of Georgetown Township, is now a resident of Westville, and is rapidly making his mark as a physician and surgeon, and also as a politician. He is married to one of the accomplished daughters of Georgetown, and they occupy a neat and comfortable home in the village of Westville, where they enjoy the warm friendship of many acquaintances. The Doctor has a good practice, and living as he does in the midst of the coal regions, has frequently the opportunity to exercise his skill as a surgeon among the miners, who often meet with accidents requiring his services. In political circles the Doctor is a member of the Republican Central Committee, and prominent in the councils of the party in this section. He has attained to his present position, both in the profession and among men generally, by his own exertions, paying his way through college and signalizing himself by the industry and perseverance which is the surest guarantee of success in every avenue of life.

Our subject was born May 15, 1862, and grew up familiar with farming pursuits. He attended the common school and made such good headway that when but fourteen years old he began teaching, and followed this five winters in succession. In the meantime he conceived the idea of becoming a physician. He began the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. J. E. Balch, of Westville, with whom he remained two and one-half years, then entered the office of Dr. W. A. Yohn, of Valparaiso, Ind. Later he became a student of the Medical College at Indianapolis, from which he was graduated Feb. 18, 1885. He commenced the practice of his profession in Westville, and has since been making steady progress toward the top of the ladder.

A few months after receiving his diploma, being prepared to establish a home of his own, the Doctor was united in marriage with Miss Viola Padgitt, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Georgetown, July 26, 1885. Mrs. Taylor was born in Georgetown Township, April 3, 1860, and is the daughter of John L. and Ellen (O'Neal) Padgitt, who are well known in this part of the county as among its most esteemed citizens. She acquired a good education, and, like her husband, engaged in teaching, which she followed six years. After their marriage the Doctor and his bride settled in Westville, where they have since resided, and where our subject enjoys the patronage of its best people. He is pardonably proud of some of his performances in surgery, epecially a case which he recently had in charge, where a very difficult amputation was required, and which he executed with great skill and with successful results.

To the Doctor and his estimable wife there have been born two children, bright little daughters—

Louie and Bertha E. Mrs. Taylor is a member in good standing of the Christian Church. The politics of the Doctor have already been indicated. Socially, he belongs to the Masonic Fraternity of Georgetown, and is also identified with the Sons of Veterans at Danville. He is serving as a School Director in his district, and is recognized as a liberal and public-spirited citizen, one always ready to contribute of his time and means for the advancement of the enterprises calculated for the general good of the community.

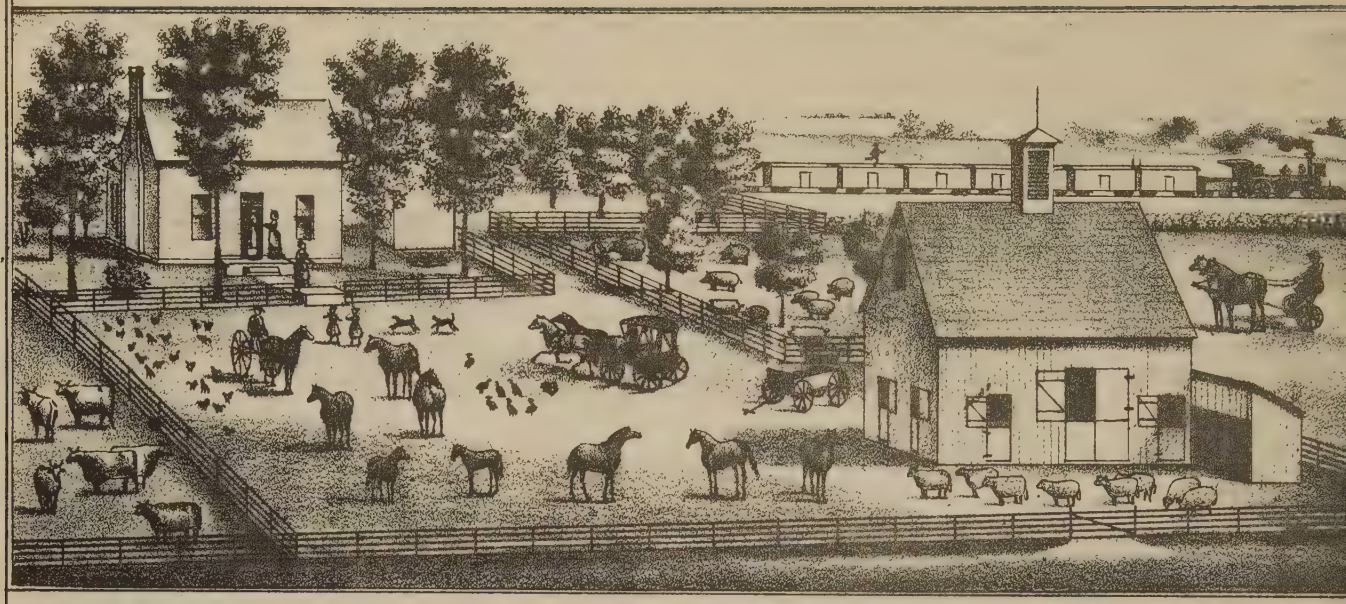
DR. PATRICK H. SWAIM, of Ridge Farm, is recognized by the people of Elwood Township and the outlying country as one of the most successful physicians and surgeons in the county. He is comparatively a young man, on the sunny side of forty, having been born Oct. 19, 1849. His native place was Guilford County, N. C., from which he removed with his parents in 1852 to Parke County, Ind., they settling nine miles north of Montezuma, where the father, Brantley Swaim, died in 1882. The mother, Mrs. Irene (Fields) Swaim, is still living at the old homestead in Indiana.

Eight children comprised the family of the parents of our subject, seven of whom are living, viz: Byron, Christopher W., Isabelle, William B., Patrick H., John B. and Milton. Our subject first attended the common schools of Bloomingdale, Ind., then entered the academy conducted by Prof. Barnabas B. Hobbs. When twenty-three years old—in the fall of 1871—he began teaching, and followed this profession thereafter for five years in his own neighborhood. He then began reading medicine, and in the meantime attended medical lectures in Rush College, Chicago. Later he attended the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Indianapolis, by which he was graduated in 1879. He began the practice of his profession at Annapolis that same year, but shortly afterward removed to Quaker Hill, Ind., and from there a year later to Bethel in this county. In the latter place he remained three years, and we next find him in Humrick, Ill., where he sojourned until April, 1885. Thence he changed his residence to Ridge Farm, where he has built up a large practice and been eminently successful. In the fall of 1888 he treated forty cases of typhoid fever successfully, losing no case from that epidemic. In the fall of 1887 he journeyed to the Pacific Slope, visiting the principal cities of California, and spending two months very pleasantly and profitably. He is a man of large observation, and leaves no stone unturned in the acquirement of useful knowledge.

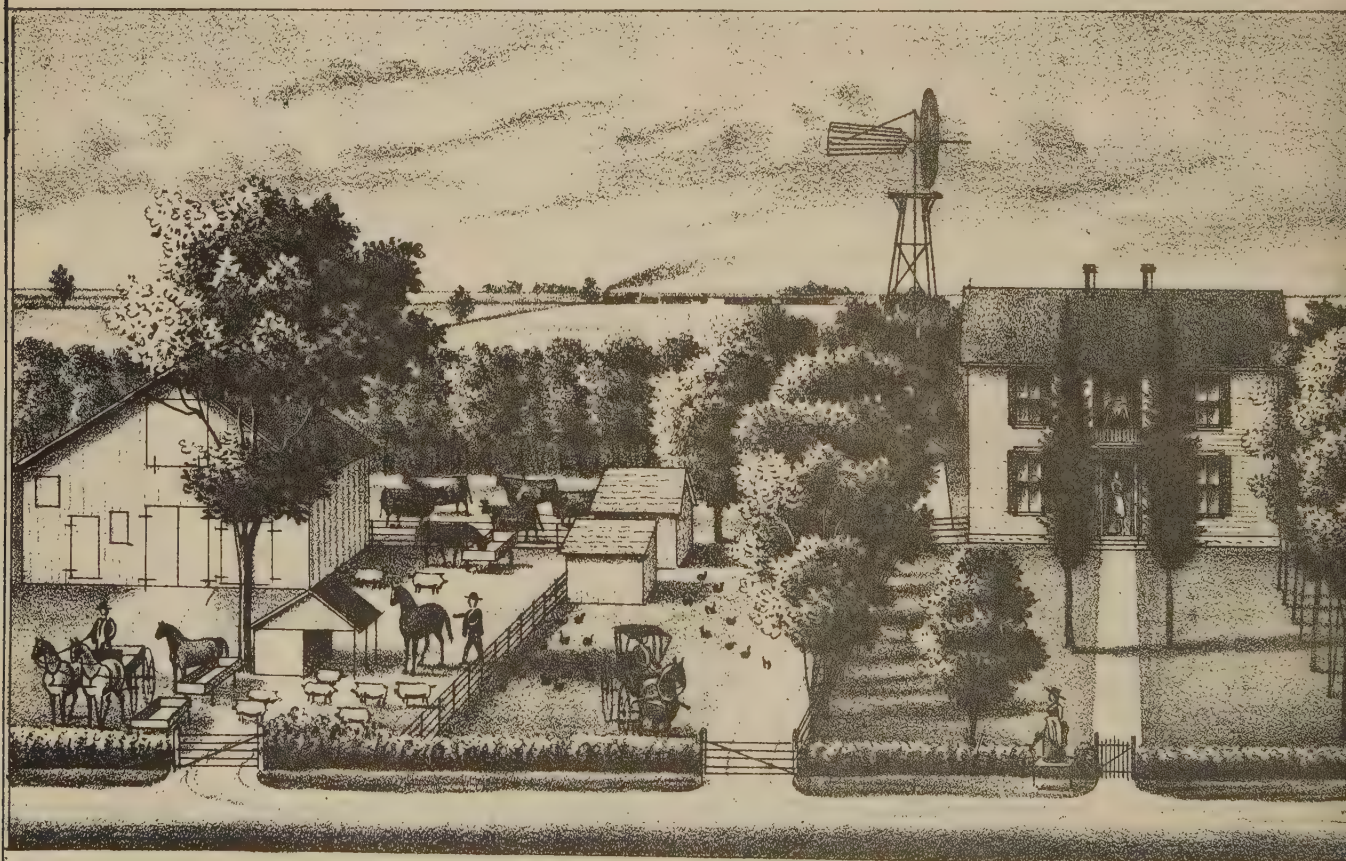
The marriage of Dr. Swaim with Miss Carrie York was celebrated in December, 1875. This lady is the daughter of Eli York, who met his death on the battlefield at Spring Hill during the late Rebellion. The Doctor and Mrs. Swaim are the parents of two interesting children—Musa and Mabel. Politically, the Doctor is a sound Republican. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen, being Examining Surgeon of his lodge at Ridge Farm.

FRANCIS P. SMITH. The young generation that has sprung up since the pioneers of this country have passed off the stage of action, is composed of young people, who have profited by the experience through which their fathers have passed. They have had before them an object lesson that has taught them the facts that nothing is gained without labor. Some of them have passed through—in their early life—scenes of hardship and know what privations are and what it is to want for the necessaries of life. They farther know what it is to procure an education under difficulties. But those who have been born within the last thirty years have had comparatively easy sailing on the sea of life. Their parents have become able to educate them and give them a start in life. This young generation appreciate all these things, and none more than the man whose name appears at the head of this notice.

Francis P. Smith is one of the young and enterprising farmers of Elwood Township. He is proud of his father's record, (which appears in this volume) and he has every reason to be. He is resid-



RESIDENCE OF JOHN M. ELLIOTT SEC. 25., ELWOOD TP., VERMILION CO.



RESIDENCE OF Wm GRAY, SEC. 30., SIDELL TP., VERMILION CO.

ing on the old homestead, which is situated on section 18, range 11, where he was born Dec. 31, 1854. His father, George W. Smith, is a native of Tennessee and a worthy pioneer of Vermilion County, having emigrated here with his father, Jesse Smith, at a time when this country had little evidence of civilization. Francis received his education at the common schools, and the Vermilion Academy. He has worked on a farm since he has been old enough to do anything, and he has been prosperous.

On Feb. 22, 1877, Mr. Smith was married to Sarah J. Canaday, daughter of Henry Canaday, who was a farmer in this township. She was born on a farm adjoining her present home July 15, 1856. She is the mother of four children, three of whom are living—Everett, Ethel, and Noble. Mr. Smith is the owner of 178 acres of first-class land, all of which is perfectly cultivated. He follows general farming and stock-raising, and does so intelligently. His stock consists of graded horses, Short-horn cattle, Poland-China hogs and Merino and Shropshiredown sheep. He has many fine specimens of good stock and is an enthusiastic admirer of blooded animals.

Mr. Smith and his amiable wife are always found at the front, where their duty calls them. They are enthusiastic members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Sharon.

JOHN M. ELLIOTT. As a rule, if a man belongs to the society of Quakers, no other recommendation need be given him. It is a rare thing to find a dishonest or idle man in this most excellent sect. They are conceded to be honorable, just and industrious, and if a person possesses these qualities, we place in him implicit confidence and unbounded trust. John M. Elliott is a Quaker.

Mr. Elliott owns and operates 125 acres of land on section 25, Range 11, Elwood Township. His father, Nathan Elliott, was a native of Guilford County, N. C., and a son of Exum Elliott, who emigrated to Wayne County, Ind., when Nathan was five years old. Indiana was a territory at that time and the Indians and wild animals held almost undisputed possession of the country. This was just after the war of 1812. The mother of John M. was Betsey Maxwell, daughter of John Maxwell. She was born where Earlham College now stands, and died in Indiana May 17, 1841, leaving three children: Jane, (Mendenhall), Sarah (Larrance) and John M. The father afterward married Naomi, daughter of Jonathan Mendenhall, and by this last marriage he was the father of nine children, seven of whom are living: Henry C., Anna E., Wesley, Alvin, Clayton B., Mary E. and Delphina. One son, David, died in his seventh year, in 1853, and another one died in infancy.

John M. Elliott was born Dec. 22, 1839, and emigrated with his father to this county in 1855, locating in Elwood Township, one mile and a half west of Ridge Farm. He received his education primarily at the public schools, he having also taught two terms. Otherwise he has worked at the business of farming since he was old enough to do anything. He was married on Jan. 31, 1861, to Miss Sarah, daughter of John Mendenhall, a prominent resident of Carroll Township, where she was born. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott are the parents of nine children: Melbourne, Florence, Francis A., Ada R., Orange, Howard J., William H., Martha and Mary, the latter being twins. Melbourne married Grace M. Patton and lives on the old homestead in this township; Florence is the wife of Thomas H. Rees, of Carroll Township and the mother of one child, born June 15, 1889, died July 22, 1889; Frank is in the Cascade Mountains of Oregon, connected with a surveying party.

The whole family belong to the Friends' Church and take great interest in religious matters. Mr. Elliott has been a School Director for twenty years, and is a Trustee of the Vermilion Academy being one of the original incorporators of that institution. Politically he votes the way the most of the people who belong to his church do—with the Republican party—and is always willing to do what he can honorably to enhance its interests. He has never aspired to official honors but in religious and educational affairs exhibits great solicitude. His pleasant home is always open to his friends and he

and his most excellent wife are liberal in their hospitality. We present on another page of the ALBUM a fine view of the residence of Mr. Elliott, where he lives in comfort and happiness with his wife and those of his children who yet remain at home.

WILLIAM GRAY is pleasantly located on his valuable farm of 240 acres, and, although at an advanced age, still retains the active management of all its details. He was born in Butler County, Ohio, about seven miles north of Hamilton. His father, Louis Gray, was a native of New Jersey, but came to Fort Cincinnati in 1801 and built a log cabin on what is now known as Third street in the city of Cincinnati. Here he purchased 200 acres of land at a shilling an acre, which, upon his removal to Butler County, Ohio, the so-called land of promise, he sold at a small advance on the original cost. He was married to Miss Mary Winnigs, this event taking place in New Jersey a short time previous to their removal to Ohio. Louis Gray was a strong supporter of the old Whig party and an ardent admirer of Henry Clay, Harrison, and other men of his party. When the Republican party was formed, in 1856, he joined that political organization, but died regretting the fact that he could never have the opportunity of casting his vote for John C. Fremont. At the time of his death, in 1856, he was seventy-eight years old. Early in life he was crippled, a fact which prevented him from enlisting in the war of 1812. He made an endeavor to join the army, but was rejected. Louis Gray was married twice, his first wife being the mother of William. His second wife was Mrs. Ann Collins, a native of New Jersey. By his first marriage he was the father of five children; Amos, who was drowned in boyhood; Phœbe, Daniel, William and Harvey. The grandfather of the subject of this sketch was born in America, but his father was a native of England, coming to this country in colonial times.

William Gray's birth occurred on May 9, 1816, he is the only survivor of his mother's family, but has three half sisters living. His first boyish recollections are of the old log house in the woods on the banks of the Miama River, but this stream has since washed away the site of the structure. Here the happiest moments of his childhood were passed. His father was a contractor for the building of the Miami Canal from Dayton to Cincinnati, and about the first work in which William engaged, was driving a yoke of oxen on this contract, while his father had charge of 100 men and about forty or fifty teams of cattle. William was obliged to stand on a flour barrel in order to put the yoke on his oxen. His father, in common with other sturdy pioneers of this country, believed implicitly in the plan of rearing his sons to industry, a fact which has left its imprint upon the generation succeeding him. After the canal was completed, William's father invested his earnings in Butler County land, but in 1844 he concluded to remove to Indiana, which he did, locating near LaFayette.

It was under these circumstances that the subject of this sketch grew to manhood. He attended the subscription schools in the winter time, and during the summer months worked upon the farm. He also learned the cooper's trade, as his father owned a cooper shop in connection with his grist-mill. In 1841, when he was twenty-five years of age, he was married to Miss Sarah A. Harman, who was born three miles east of Lebanon, Warren Co., Ohio. She is the daughter of Samuel and Mary Harman, who came to Warren County while they were children. Her grandfather, Henry Harman, was a native of Germany, while her mother's people came from an old American family of Scotch-Irish descent. Her parents continued to live in Warren County several years, but finally removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., and later spent their declining years with Mrs. Gray, her father dying in March, 1875, at the age of seventy-four years, while her mother passed away in February, 1887, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. This venerable couple were the parents of twelve children, whose names are herewith given: Sarah A., Alfred, Elizabeth, Susan, Henry, David, Rebecca and Mary (twins), Samuel, Catherine, Martha and Emma.

Mrs. Gray was born Oct. 14, 1822. Her early

days were passed in a manner similar to those of her husband. They lived only twelve or fourteen miles apart, and became acquainted while yet children. In 1844 Mr. Gray with his family—and also accompanied by his father's family—removed to Clinton County, Ind., and resided there until 1859, when they settled on their present homestead in Vermilion County. Mr. Gray purchased 400 acres of land, which at the time was unimproved. He staked off the foundation for his house by the shadow of the sun at noontide, but his watch being a little fast, the foundation was not located due north and south. While in Indiana Mr. Gray began to pack pork, working at it every winter, and in company with John Blair built a plant for this purpose and also for packing beef. His packing house was located at Crawfordsville, and in this industry he was prospered, killing about 20,000 hogs each year, for three years. Since Mr. Gray has lived in Illinois, however, he has devoted his entire time to farming, and in this occupation has been eminently successful.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray have become the parents of nine children: Harvey, Mary Jane, Alfred, William H., who died at the age of five years; Elizabeth A.; Sarah C., who died when fifteen years old; Milton, who died when six months old; Clara and Alice. Harvey enlisted in Company D., 25th Illinois Infantry, and at Chickamauga was wounded and taken prisoner, but being disabled was left by the rebels on the field of battle. He was taken to a Union hospital at St. Louis, where he died a victim of small-pox. Mary Jane married James Mills, a Union soldier, and he died in April, 1879, leaving three children—Alfred, Elma and Effie. Since the death of Mr. Mills his children, as well as their mother, have lived at the home of Mr. Gray. Alfred married Miss Vena Carroll, and is farming in Sidell Township. They have two children, John and William. Elizabeth A., is the wife of John Wilson, also a Union soldier, and a farmer of Sidell Township. They have two children—Otto and Charles. Clara is at home. Alice married Samuel Guthrie, who was also a soldier of the Union army and now a farmer near Tuscola, Ill. They have four children—Eva, Sarah, Ola and Harrison.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray are living in a very pleasant home, which is illustrated by a fine view on another page of this volume. All of the surroundings indicate the refinement and good taste of its occupants, while their splendid line of books also exhibits the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Gray are fond of good reading. Mr. Gray has served as School Director for several years, and is much interested in educational matters. He has also been a Justice of the Peace, holding that honorable office for six years, and for many years held the position of Highway Commissioner. Politically he is a stanch Republican, and does good work for his party. In all this section of the country there is not a more generous, hospitable and public-spirited couple than Mr. and Mrs. Gray.

DAVID JOHNSTON. It is a fact generally acknowledged and widely commented upon, that in the great world with its millions of men no two are alike, although they may be possessed of many corresponding traits of character. Mr. Johnston is one of those who have assisted largely in the development of a portion of the soil of Vermilion County, and has distinguished himself by hard labor, sobriety, honesty and the other solid qualities which go to make up the useful citizen. His life occupation has been that of a farmer, and we find him comfortably located at a snug little homestead on section 1, Oakwood Township. He has been reasonably rewarded for the toil and sacrifices of his earlier years, and has been surrounded by all the comforts of life, while at the same time enjoying many of its luxuries.

The first record we have of this branch of the Johnston family was the settlement in Pennsylvania of Grandfather David H. Johnston, who subsequently removed to Mason County, Ky., during the period of its earliest settlement, where he dealt extensively in fat cattle, horses and mules, and became one of the wealthiest men in that region. He also owned and operated a distillery, but distinguished himself as a patriot, and was appointed

by the American Congress during the Revolutionary War to visit the Tories in his region and confiscate whatever he could lay his hands upon of their property, which he sold, and applied the proceeds to the carrying on of the war. It is easy to imagine that nothing pleased the old hero better than this errand, and none rejoiced more than he at the result of the Declaration of Independence.

Among the sons of Grandfather Johnston was John, the father of our subject, who was born in Mason County, Ky., was reared upon a farm, and removed to Ohio about 1826. He had three sisters—Hannah, Nancy and Polly Ann. He married Miss Sarah Mathaney, a native of that State, and the daughter of Elias Mathaney, who was born near Harper's Ferry, in West Virginia, and in connection with farming pursuits became one of the best breeders of fine horses in the Blue Grass regions. He was married three times, and died about 1862.

The parents of our subject after their marriage visited Kentucky, then settled in Adams County, Ohio, and there spent the remainder of their days. John Johnston was a well-educated man, and became prominent in his community. He was by nature a polished gentleman, and a man always in demand at public meetings to introduce the speakers to the people, and make other various little arrangements so essential to the smooth workings of those gatherings. He departed this life at his home, in 1834, and the mother followed her husband to the land of the hereafter, four years later, in 1838. The latter frequently related the incident of her father "poling" a keel boat from New Orleans to Pittsburg before the days of steam.

To John and Sarah (Mathaney) Johnston there were born five children, three sons and two daughters, of whom three are living, and of whom David, our subject, was the eldest. He was born in Mason County, Ky., Feb. 6, 1826, and at the early age of twelve began to paddle his own canoe. His education was very limited, and he worked for his uncle about three years after leaving home. Later he was employed by John Dalton, of Brown County, Ohio, several years. In September, 1844, when a youth of eighteen, he started for Illinois on horseback, and upon his arrival in this county, was employed the first year on a farm for Henry Florher, and he was similarly occupied until his marriage. This important and interesting event was celebrated Nov. 11, 1852, the bride being Miss Mary A. E., daughter of Dr. A. W. Brittingham, an old Thompsonian physician who came to Illinois in 1830, and was a very prominent man in his day. His grandfather, William Brittingham, was born in Maryland, and married a lady whose first name was Elizabeth. His parents were Jeremiah and Mary (Williams) Brittingham, the latter a daughter of John Williams, of Maryland. Jeremiah was born Dec. 3, 1764, and his wife, Mary, Oct. 12, 1760.

Jeremiah Brittingham removed to Ohio in 1810, and to Illinois in 1830, arriving in this county Nov. 5, 1830. He became the father of eight children, five of whom died when quite young in Maryland. The three who grew to mature years were: Benjamin A., Mary and Arthur W., the latter the father of Mrs. Johnston. To the latter and his excellent wife there were born eight children, of whom five are living, viz: Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Lucretia Osborn, Mrs. Julia Ann Osborn, Arthur W., Jr., and Jeremiah. The last-mentioned is still unmarried, and makes his home with our subject. He is a prominent member of Oakwood I. O. O. F. Lodge No. 564, in which he has passed all the chairs, and in February, 1889, finished his term as Past Grand. Arthur W. Brittingham departed this life Aug. 19, 1885. The mother of Mrs. Johnston was in her girlhood Miss Matilda Watson, daughter of the Rev. Henry and Mary Ann Watson, who were among the early settlers of this county. She was born Sept. 3, 1804, and died Aug. 19, 1877.

Mrs. Johnston is a native of this county, and was born Nov. 8, 1833. After their marriage Mr. Johnston operated on a rented farm about seven years, then entered 160 acres of land from the Government, and purchased forty acres. This he he sold later, and bought 100 acres, which he now owns and occupies. His landed possessions comprise 297 acres, nearly all under cultivation. He erected his present residence in 1876. He raises considerable stock, feeding a carload of cattle each year. Only a son and daughter have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnston. The latter, Matilda Jane,

became the wife of David Young, and lived on one of her father's farms until her death in 1880; she left one child, who is being reared by the grandparents.

John W. Johnston, the only son of our subject, is a very bright and promising young man, and remains on the homestead with his parents, assisting in the operation of the farm. He is a prominent member of Lodge No. 714, A. F. & A. M., at Newtown, in which he has been Secretary five years and Senior Warden three years, still holding the latter office. He is also a member of Vermilion Chapter No. 82, at Danville, and of Athelstan Commandery No. 45, at Danville. He is also Recording Steward of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a School Trustee and Vice-President of the Township Sunday-school Association.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Johnston have been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the past six years. Mr. Johnston cast his first Presidential vote for Zachary Taylor, and has always kept himself well posted upon the political issues of the day. He identified himself with the Republican party at its organization, in 1856, and since that time has steadfastly remained a supporter of its principles.

MATTHEW TRIMBLE, one of the substantial and successful men of Sidell Township, and one who is well identified with the advancement of his community, is now engaged in general or mixed farming. He is one of the substantial men of his township, and is entitled to a place in history as a self-made man. He was born Dec. 27, 1827 in Ohio, and was reared on a farm, and in a new country. His father was one of the pioneers who was obliged to hew his way through the forest, in order to make a farm, and as Matthew was the oldest boy of the family, he was obliged to work hard at plowing and breaking among the stumps.

His boyhood days, as before stated, were destitute of any of the advantages calculated to give him an education, as the school teachers in those days were on a par with the schoolhouses, exceedingly crude. Later, as he grew to be a young man, a brick school-house was built, of which he aided in the construction, and there he attended school for three terms. When he came from Ohio in the summer of 1863, he brought with him a drove of 700 sheep, driving them the entire distance with the aid of a boy and a dog, and this was his first substantial start in the stock business. His first wife, whose maiden name was Cassandria Pigman, died in 1862, when he sold his farm and engaged exclusively in the stock business. He has traded and dealt in live stock of all kinds since his boyhood, and at the time of selling his farm was considered one of the shrewdest buyers in this section of the country, and up to this time he had made an even $2,000 on his sheep.

He was married the first time in 1849 and by this union he was the father of four children: Rebecca A., William, Rachael and James. Rebecca married Scott Hildreth, a farmer of Carroll Township. They have three children, Elizabeth A., Joseph and Blaine: William resides in Powesheik County, Iowa; Rachel married George Bennett. They have four children: Clinton, Minnie, Frank and an infant. Frank is a tinner by trade. Mr. Trimble was married a second time in 1864 to Mrs. Lydia Harvey. She was born in Pennsylvania and came to Indiana when a small girl, and in 1862, emigrated to Vermilion County. Her first husband, whose name was Oliver W. Harvey, died in the army, leaving two children—Jane and Charles W. Mr. and Mrs. Trimble have two children—Chauncey and Lucy. The former is at home working on the farm, while Lucy married Elmer Hite, who lives in Kansas. Mr. Trimble has assisted his children in getting a start in the world, and they are the pride of his declining years. He has taken an active and intelligent part in all the matters pertaining to public schools, and has served as Director fifteen years. He has also filled various other positions in the township, although he has never aspired to political honors. Mr. and Mrs. Trimble are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Sidell, and they are materially aiding in the erection of a new house of worship. He is an original Lincoln Republican, as he considers that the prin-

ciples of that great man are the correct ones for the government of politics. He belives that the Union Labor party of America is, some day, bound to succeed. Mr. Trimble since he has commenced to do for himself, has been successful, which is wholly due to his judgment of men and his industrious habits. He takes hold of all matters of business with energy, and never has known that there is such a word as "fail."

MICHAEL FISHER has for the past ten years been engaged in the hardware business in Indianola, where he has conducted a large and prosperous business. His store is one of the finest in the town, and is always the scene of activity.

He was born in Carroll Township, within half a mile of Indianola, Nov. 6, 1835. His father, David Fisher, came to this county in 1833, bought school lands from the State, and also entered a tract of government land in the same year, and at the time of his death, which occurred in 1878, he owned nearly 1,000 acres of land. He was born in Ohio, his father being of good old Pennsylvania stock. The Fishers were of German extraction and pioneers of Pennsylvania, where they settled during Colonial times. David Fisher was married in Carroll Township to Miss Jane Weaver, who is still living. She is a native of Ohio, her father coming to this country in 1828 and being therefore one of the very earliest pioneers. He lived to be one hundred years old, while his wife was past ninety when she was called away.

David Fisher was the father of five children, whose names are: Michael, John W., Mary J., George and Lucinda. Michael was reared on a farm and received good educational advantages in the schools of his childhood, which were of the subscription sort. He was married in 1861 to Miss Maryette Baum, daughter of John W. Baum, an old settler of Carroll Township. She was born in Indianola. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fisher continued farming until 1877, when he engaged in the hardware business, as before indicated. He started the erection of the "Fisher Block" in 1881, completing it the next year. The store is 44x66, and comprises two store rooms, the Masonic and Fisher's Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have three children: Frank, Maud and Eva. Frank is attending the Univerity of Illinois and is a member of the class of '90. He is taking the civil engineering course. Maud is the wife of Joseph J. Sidell—whose sketch appears in this volume—while Eva is at home. In addition to his hardware business Mr. Fisher deals largely in agricultural implements, and also owns and manages two farms near Indianola. He has served his neighbors in several offices, having been Justice of the Peace for sixteen years and Assessor and Collector for four years each. While living in Kansas in 1857, he joined the Odd Fellows fraternity to which society he has since adhered. Politically he belongs to the Democratic party, but is in favor of the best man being elected to any position, and in consequence he votes independently. As before stated he has held many township offices and with distinguished honor, but he has never been an office-seeker, as his neighbors have recognized in him the qualities which should belong to every man occupying a public position. His fine education coupled with his splendid judgment has been recognized and appreciated.

Mr. Fisher was a student at the Georgetown Seminary where he acquired a classical education, and in his younger days was a teacher, being eminent in his profession. He is one of the leading citizens of Vermilion County and is respected and honored as such. A fine view of the home of Mr. Fisher is shown in this volume.

DANIEL OAKES, a gentleman of unusually modest demeanor, may be usually found at his homestead, on section 11, in Vance Township, where he carries on farming and has lived since 1869. The inroads upon his health, made by the rigors of war when he was but a youth, have had their lasting effect upon his constitution, so that he has not been enabled to realize

the full measure of his ambition among the busy laborers of the world. He is, however, a man highly respected among his fellow-citizens, possessing that integrity of character which has enabled him to live uprightly and at peace with all the world.

The early tramping ground of our subject was in Seneca County, Ohio, where he was born Aug. 26, 1843. His father, Michael Oakes, was a native of Pennsylvania, a farmer by occupation, and married Miss Rebecca Farner, who was born in Ohio. In 1850 they moved to Clark County, Ill., and later returned to Ohio to make a visit, and Mrs. Oakes died while on the journey thither. The father was subsequently married, and after some years, about 1858, returned to this county. The children of his first wife comprised three sons and one daughter, of whom three are living. One son, John, during the Civil War, enlisted in Company F, 25th Illinois Infantry, and died in camp at Scottsboro, Ala., in the winter of 1862. Michael Oakes departed this life at his home in Vance Township, in 1882.

The subject of this notice attended school in Clark County, Ill., the temple of learning being an old log schoolhouse, with its primitive accommodations, and the system of instruction far inferior to that of the present day. When a youth of seventeen, the Civil War being in progress, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company F, 71st Illinois Infantry for three months. At the expiration of this time he re-enlisted in Company F, 26th Infantry, for three years, and took part in many of the important battles which followed—Atlanta, Scottsboro, Savannah, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Grape Creek—and went with Sherman in his memorable march to the sea. He had the pleasure of witnessing the surrender of the rebel General Johnston in North Carolina, and after the surrender of Lee, repaired with his comrades to Washington, and took part in the Grand Review.

On the 28th of July, 1864, at Atlanta, Mr. Oakes received a gunshot wound in the right side, but he kept on fighting, and never lost a day on account of it. At Savannah he was wounded in the right knee. His health was greatly impaired by hardship and exposure, and it is hardly possible that he will ever regain his former robust health.

Mr. Oakes was first married in 1867, to Miss Melissa Morrison, who became the mother of four children (two of whom are living), and who died in 1880. The two children remaining are Charles and Eva, who are living with their father. Mr. Oakes was married a second time in 1881, to Miss Margaret Hickman, and they have one child—Willie. Mrs. Oakes is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Our subject takes no active part in politics, but goes regularly to the polls, and votes the Republican ticket, even if he has to leave a sick bed, as at the last election. He is a member of Homer Post, G. A. R., but on account of frail health, has not been permitted to attend the regular meetings. The most of his time is spent on his snug farm of 110 acres, which is finely located on section 7, and is under a good state of cultivation.

ANDERSON W. ELDER. The subject of this notice came to this county from Ohio in 1878, for the purpose of taking charge of the large farm which he now operates, and which comprises 320 acres, the east half of section 34, in Sidell Township. His efficient management is observable in the well-cultivated fields and the general appearance of the premises. While operating as a tiller of the soil, Mr. Elder is also engaged in the cultivation of his mental capacities—a man who has read and observed much, and who has decided ideas coupled with the faculty of giving them expression, and with the good sense which usually inspires him to temperance of speech and prevents him from giving offense to those differing from him in opinion. He is in the prime of life, active and energetic, and the son of one of the most wealthy farmers of the Buckeye State, John Elder, who was the owner of nearly 1,000 acres of land in Clark County, Ohio, and who died May 31, 1889, at the advanced age of eighty-one years, one month and nineteen days.

The subject of this notice was born near Springfield, in Greene Township, Clark Co., Ohio, Aug. 26, 1852, and was there reared to man's estate on a

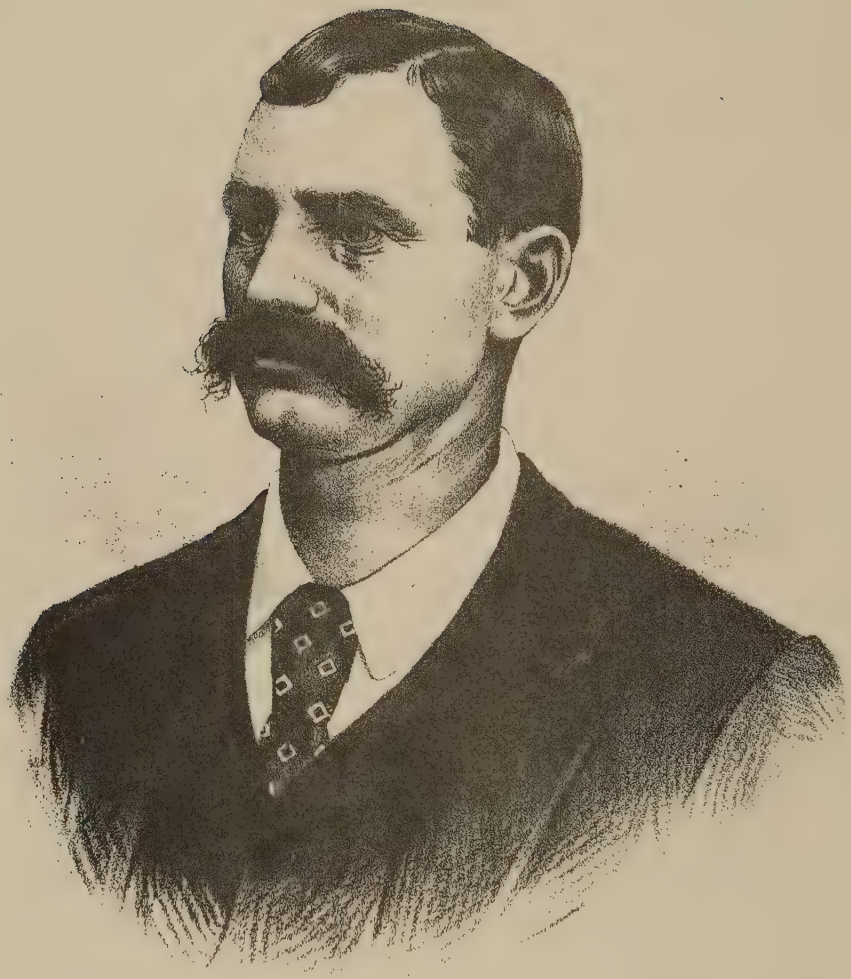
farm. About 1877, he started on a traveling tour, visiting the Eastern States, the Dominion of Canada, also Kentucky and Missouri, after which he came to this county. He was married in 1881, to Miss Libby, daughter of W. B. Squires, of Sidell Township. Mrs. Elder was born in Iowa, whence her parents later came to Illinois, then removed to Kentucky, and she was reared in these two States. Of her union with our subject there have been born four children, viz.: Edna, Inez, Edith and Johnie B., who are all living and at home with their parents, and are looked upon by the latter with pardonable pride, being remarkably interesting and intelligent. Mr. Elder, politically, is a sound Republican, and is able to give a reason for the faith that is in him. He is no office-seeker, and has had very little to do with public affairs, simply serving on the Circuit Jury.

The father of our subject was a native of Harrisburg, Pa.; the mother, whose maiden name was Phebe Casey, was born in Springfield, Ohio. She died in 1860 at the age of forty-five years. Nine children comprised the parental family, who were named respectively, Ann J., Wallace, Findlay, Melinda, Samuel, Anderson W., David, Robert and Charles.

RICHARD R. WORTHINGTON, M. D., physician and surgeon, is one of the best of the profession in his community, where he has resided for the past fifteen years. He is a native of Mason County, Ky., having been born near Maysville on Aug. 14, 1851. His father and mother were also natives of the same county, and were very prominent citizens there. The father, the Hon. Samuel Worthington, was elected as a Whig to the State Legislature and was noted as an independent, outspoken man. He died in his native county, in 1862, at the comparatively early age of fifty-four, and in this world's goods he was fairly well off. He was killed by one of his former slaves. His wife is still living at her old home and is a lady of seventy-one years of age. The elder Worthington had been married three times and by his first wife was the father of two children, who grew to maturity. He had three by his second wife and eight by his third, four of whom grew to maturity; the latter of whom were Mary R., who died in Mason County, Ky.; Anna; Richard Runyon, of whom this sketch is written; and Martha L. Anna married Elder W. G. Cox, and is residing at Middletown, Ky. Martha L. is the wife of J. G. Thompson, who is a prosperous merchant and land-owner of Fernleaf, Ky.

Dr. Worthington was reared on a farm. He attended the common school, and later on, the college at Minerva, Ky., which institution he entered at the early age of thirteen. Here he continued a student for three years when he relinquished his studies to take charge of his father's farm, which occupied his time for two years. In 1870, he removed to Catlin, Vermilion County, where he began to read medicine under Dr. T. H. Runyon. He continued his studies in this manner for about eight months, when he entered the Medical College of Ohio at Cincinnati, graduating from that institution in the class of 1874. In October, of the same year he located at Indianola, entering upon a successful medical career.

He was married in 1879 to Miss Vina McMellan, daughter of 'Squire William McMellan, one of the leading men of Indianola, whose biography appears in this volume. She was born in Carroll Township, and attended the common schools of her town, gaining a good education. She is the mother of three children—Samuel Lester, Chester Allen and Anna Love. Dr. Worthington put in a stock of drugs the first year he located at this place, buying out the store operated by Dr. J. L. Hull. His practice has increased until to-day he has all the patients that he can attend to. He is a member of the County Medical Association and is constantly studying, thus keeping apace with the practical details in the improvements of medicine. As a physician he is patient, constant, sympathetic, yet in the hour of extremity, cool, calm and courageous, thus inspiring the sick and distressed in scenes of danger. He is the Examining Physician for the Little Vermilion Camp of Modern Woodmen, of which he is a charter member. He was a charter member of the I. O. O. F., Lodge No. 584, and passed through chairs of that order, and was Representa-



John F. Rowand

tive to the Grand Lodge. He was the first President elected under the incorporation act of the village and served with fidelity and intelligence, and has held that office ever since. He was elected Supervisor in 1889.

Dr. Worthington is an adherent to the principles of the Democratic party and is an active worker in its ranks. He was one of the original projectors of the Indianola Building and Loan Association, being President of that organization. He is very prominent in the affairs that look to the improvement of his town, and a public-spirited citizen in every sense of the word.

JOHN F. ROWAND, Supervisor of Sidell Township, although quiet and unobtrusive in manner, possesses strength of character and from the fact that he has just entered upon his seventh year in this capacity, it is evident that he stands high among his fellow-citizens. He is a farmer by occupation, owning and operating 300 acres of choice land, 200 on section 12 and 100 on section 1. Nature has endowed him with a generous fund of sound, common sense, a quality descended to him from a most excellent ancestry.

The native place of our subject was the present site of Springfield in Clark County, Ohio, where his birth occurred June 2, 1853. His parents, Edward and Margaret (Smith) Rowand were natives respectively of Maryland and Ireland. The father emigrated to Ohio at an early date and settled on a tract of land near the present city of Springfield where he cleared a farm from the wilderness. He was first married to a Miss Luce who became the mother of seven children, all of whom lived to mature years. Of his marriage with Miss Smith there were also born seven children, viz.: Edward M., John F., our subject, Isaac, an infant who died unnamed, Margaret J., Mary E. and Davis. Of these six are living.

The Rowand family came to Illinois in 1857, and settled near Paris in Edgar County, where they lived one year; then coming to this county they located where the city of Sidell now stands. The father was a very able man and especially active in church work. He accumulated a comfortable property but finally returned East as far as Ross County, Ohio, about 1859. Here his death occurred in 1861 when he was seventy-four years old. The mother then came back to this county and is now living at the old homestead, three-fourths of a mile southeast of Sidell.

Our subject was in the fifth year of his age when his parents came to Illinois, and after their return to Ohio he attended school in Ross County. After the death of his father he went to live with his half-brother, William Rowand, in Clark County and remained a resident of the Buckeye State until 1869. In the meantime, upon approaching manhood he worked on a farm at $8 per month, during the summer and attended school during the winter. He earned the money for his books, notwithstanding his father left a good property. One of the half-brothers managed to hold the estate, which was in litigation for a period of five years before divided equally among the rightful heirs, being settled in 1877.

While a resident of Illinois our subject was married April 2, 1878, to Miss Elizabeth A. Cross. This lady was born in Greene County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Ethan O. and Nancy Ann (Webster) Cross who came to Illinois in 1862 and settled in this county. The father prosecuted farming and died in 1884, when about fifty years of age. The mother had passed away ten years before, at the early age of thirty-eight years. Their eight children were named respectively, Charles E., Elizabeth Almira, Sarah Matilda, Frank who died at the age of two months, Fanny B., Jennie S., Bessie who died when one year and ten months old and Nettie Adelaide

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Rowand settled upon 200 acres of land which fell to our subject as his share of his father's estate. Upon this he has effected good improvements and for the past five years has been largely interested in live stock, making a specialty of cattle. In 1880 he purchased eighty acres of land on section 1 and in 1884 twenty acres on the same section, which is watered by the Little Vermilion. The farm is well equipped with good buildings and modern machinery, includ-

ing a windmill and an artesian well, the latter 210 feet deep.

To our subject and his estimable wife have been born four children—John F., Jr., Jennie E., Charles D. and Hattie M., all living. Mr. and Mrs. Rowand are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Sheridan in which Mr. Rowand is serving his fifth year as Elder. He has served as Township Supervisor and in politics votes the straight Democratic ticket. He is quite prominent in local politics and a member of the Democratic County Central Committee, also of the Democratic Club of Sidell.

Nancy Ann Whit, the great-grandmother of Mrs. Rowand, was the daughter of a Mr. Zanes after whom the town of Zanesville, Ohio, was named; she was married to Mr. Maxwell at the age of sixteen years and in the Revolutionary War carried bullets in her apron to the soldiers, said bullets being "run" by her sister. She was a courageous and loyal old lady—one of the typical grandames of the colonial times. A portrait of Mr. Rowand appears on another page of this volume.

DARIUS BOSWELL REID, President of the Village Board and Supervisor of Georgetown Township, is recognized as one of the leading men of this county, with whose interests he has been closely identified for many years. A Kentuckian by birth, his native place was near Maysville, in Fleming County, and he is the son of Joseph C. Reid, who was born on the eastern shore of Maryland. The family is of Irish origin. Mrs. Rebecca (Montgomery) Reid, the mother of our subject was born in Pennsylvania, af English ancestry.

Joseph C. Reid was first married to Miss Susan Lee, in Kentucky. She was a high-born lady and a descendant of old Gen. Richard Henry Lee, of Revolutionary fame. Of this union there were born three children, only one of whom grew to mature years—a daughter, Mary M., who became the wife of Thomas Scott, and at the time of her death left two children—Marion and Alexander. The former was a soldier of the late war and died during that struggle. Joseph Reid was a man highly endowed by nature, remarkably intelligent and a great lover of music in which he was quite proficient, having a fine voice for singing and skillfully playing the violin. He taught school during his early manhood and in the meanwhile prepared the manuscript for an arithmetical text book, which, however, was never published but is still in the possession of the family.

The father of our subject likewise learned the trade of a shoemaker which he followed mostly during the winter season, while in the summer he was engaged in the cultivation of a small farm. Born in 1775, he fought under Gen. Harrison as ensign at Ft. Meigs in 1813, and after the war returned to his home in Kentucky. His first wife died in the Blue Grass State and he was then married to the mother of our subject. In 1835, after the birth of three children they left Kentucky, coming to Edgar County, this State, and settling in what is now Bruellet Creek Township. They resided there until 1850, then removed to Wayne County, where the father entered 120 acres of land on his war claim. He only lived two years thereafter, passing away in 1852.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Reid sold the farm and returned to Edgar County. Later she came to live with her son, our subject, and died at his residence, Dec. 14, 1884, when seventy-five years old. She had been a devoted Christian for more than twenty years and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Joseph Reid, politically, first belonged to the old Whig party and was true to the principles which afterward laid the foundation of the Republican party. The parental household included four children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Susan J., married Jason B. Sprague, who later became Captain of Company D, 29th Illinois Infantry, and was killed on the battle-field of Shiloh. He left his widow with six children—Sarah A., Edgar B., Thomas, Wealthy A., Charles and Mary. Mrs. Sprague died in Labette County, Kan., at the age of forty years. The second daughter, Elizabeth A., married Shirley Trotter, became the mother of three children and died in Wayne County, this State; Sally F. is the

widow of Francis Robinson and resides in Wayne County; she has four children.

The subject of this sketch was born July 11, 1833, and was but two and one-half years old when brought by his parents to Illinois. His education was confined principally to his own home, his father being his tutor, although he attended for a short time the subscription schools in Edgar County. There he made the acquaintance of his future wife. He was brought up on a farm and after leaving Wayne County the last time worked one year in a brick-yard and subsequently was employed the same length of time on a farm. He came to Georgetown in the summer of 1855 and entered the employ of Pike Sprague for a term of three years, at the expiration of which time he was married, July 14, 1858, to Miss Sarah A., daughter of Rev. Patrick and Lurena (Wilson) Cowan.

The parents of Mrs. Reid were from Virginia whence they removed to Indiana and then to this State, settling finally in Edgar County. Their family consisted of nine children, of whom Sarah A. was next to the youngest. She was born in Illinois, and was reared in Edgar County; her father was one of the pioneer preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Eastern Illinois. Since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Reid have made their home in Georgetown, and have a snug residence in the eastern part of the town. In later years our subject turned his attention to carpentering and has built a great many fine residences in and about Georgetown besides churches and school buildings. He put up the academy building at Vermilion Grove and the Friends' churches at Georgetown.

Seven children came to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Reid, but the first-born died in infancy. Rebecca A., the fourth child, died at the age of three years; Mary L., Robert J., James F., Alex. C. and Luranah are the survivors. Miss Mary became the wife of Enos Campbell, a blacksmith by trade; they live in Georgetown and are the parents of one child. Robert J. is a telegraph operator and station agent of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, at Hayes City, Kan.; James F., an expert mechanic and builder, is in the employ of the P. E. Lane Bridge Company, of Chicago, making his headquarters at Lincoln, Neb., where he is at present superintending the construction and laying of the iron works on one of the public buildings of Lincoln. Alex. has charge of Mr. Reid's farm of forty acres and lives at home. Luranah is attending school at Georgetown, being a member of the class of '91.

Politically, Mr. Reid is a strong Republican and in full sympathy with the principles advocated by that party. He has held the office of Commissoner of Highways with great credit to himself for the past nine years. He has been School Trustee a number of years and for several terms has occupied his present position as President of the Village Board. In the spring of 1885 the Democrats brought forward an opposition candidate for Supervisor, but notwithstanding this Mr. Reid was unanimously elected to the office. He has served as juryman several times and thus has made himself useful in the affairs of his community, whose confidence and esteem he enjoys in a marked degree. Both he and Mrs. Reid are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Georgetown. Socially Mr. Reid has been identified with the Masonic fraternity for a period of twenty years, belonging to Russell Lodge No. 154, at Georgetown, in which he has served two terms as Master and is now Junior Warden. Personally Mr. Reid is of large and commanding figure with a countenance and bearing highly indicative of his true character—that of an honest man and a gentleman.

CHARLES F. GRAY. Prominent among the manufacturers of Vermilion County and a leading citizen of Sidell, is the subject of this notice who has been known to the people of this region since his boyhood, having grown up among them, being the son of one of the earliest settlers of Sidell Township. His specialty is the manufacture of tile and brick, in connection with which he has a $15,000 plant and gives employment to a large number of men. In addition to being a young man of more than ordinary business ability, he is of that generous and genial

temperament, by which he makes friends wherever he goes and is highly esteemed, not only by his compeers, but by his subordinates. His aim in dealing with his employes is to be not only just, but generous. In appearance he would attract attention most any where, being portly and robust, while his high sense of honor shines out through his expressive countenance and is at once a passport to the confidence and esteem of his fellowmen. His business affairs necessarily demand much time and attention, but these have not prevented him from taking a warm interest in the enterprises set on foot for the good of his community.

In glancing at the antecedents of Mr. Gray we find that his father, Harvey M., was born near Middletown, in Butler County, Ohio, and was the son of one of the earliest settlers of Hamilton County, Ohio, Lewis Gray, who located as early as 1800 near the present site of Cincinnati and established the first cooper shop in that place. He finally became a contractor on the Big Miami Canal and accumulated a large property, operating both a mill and a distillery. During the panic of 1837 he lost nearly the whole of his property, but finally regained partially his financial standing and spent his last days surrounded by the comforts of life. He died in 1856 at the age of seventy-five years at Jefferson, Clinton Co., Ind., where he had owned and conducted a hotel. He was a native of New Jersey and of English ancestry. The great-grandfather of our subject lived to be ninety-six years old.

Mrs. Susan (Harman) Gray, the mother of our subject was born in Warren County, Ohio, and is still living, being now a lady of sixty years. Her parents were Samuel and Mary (Anderson) Harman, the former a native of Virginia and whose parents were born in Germany. The maternal grandmother of our subject was born in New Jersey and was of Scotch descent. Upon their removal to Ohio the Harmans settled near what was then Lebanon and engaged in farming pursuits, and there the childhood and youth of Mrs. Gray were spent until her marriage, which occurred when she was a maiden of seventeen.

The parents of our subject after their marriage loaded up their wordly effects and started overland for Clinton County, Ohio, where Mr. Gray with his father had become the proprietor of a cooper shop at Jefferson. Father and son prosecuted cooping in the winter and carpentering in the summer for eleven years, and at the expiration of this time Harvey Gray decided to strike out for the farther West. By this time the household included six children and he was desirous of acquiring more land, also in hopes to regain his failing health by a change of climate. Upon their arrival in this county they unloaded their goods directly west of the present site of Symmes' burying ground, and Mrs. Gray witnessed the first burial there in the fall following. They only staid there one year, then removed to what has now for many years been familiarly known to the people of this region as the Gray homestead.

The father of our subject was an important member of the pioneer community and aided largely in forwarding the enterprises leading to its advancement. Politically, he was a strong Whig and cast his first vote for Gen. Harrison in 1840. He was a man of progressive ideas and in religion was a Universalist. He took particular interest in the establishment of schools, and carried out his idea of Christianity by assisting those in need immediately around him. Many a poor man was fed from his table and received the assistance and advice most needed. In his family he was remarkably kind and indulgent, a lover of home who found his highest enjoyment there. He improved a good farm of 160 acres and left his family in comfortable circumstances at the time of his death, which occurred in 1866.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Gray displayed remarkably good judgment in the management of her family and her property, giving to her children a good practical education and training them to habits of industry and sentiments of honor. She is a bright, intelligent and well-preserved lady, with an attractive countenance, suggestive of much beauty in younger years, and her heart has never grown old. The record of her twelve children is as follows: Samuel who married Miss Loah Harman, is occupying a part of the homestead and is the father of five children; Martha A. married G. M. Spry, of Sidell, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work; Hannah

M. became the wife of Oscar Mitchell and died leaving two children, Harvey and Birdie; Sarah F. is junior partner of the firm of C. F. & S. F. Gray and presides over the domestic affairs of her brother Charles; Ida E. is the wife of George T. Mason of Arcola, Ill., and they have four children. Mr. Mason is associated with Chapman Bros., publishers of this work. Emma M. was first married to Henry Shear who was killed in a well; her present husband is J. R. Morrison and they live on a farm near Sidell; they have one child. Laura married S. W. Baird, a farmer near Indianola, and they have one child; Frank married Miss Lilly Harman and resides in Sidell; Lewis M. died when a promising youth of nineteen years; Albert at the same age and Harvey when three weeks old.

The subject of this sketch was born Feb. 11, 1859, at the homestead where he spent his boyhood, remaining on the farm until twenty-four years old. He then became interested in the tile business at Sidell, which enterprise was first inaugurated by his brother, Samuel Gray, backed by John Sidell and operated under the firm name of S. Gray & Co. In 1883 it was merged into Gray Bros. The first buildings were put up in the fall of 1882, but in July 4, 1884 a cyclone tore the building to pieces and the $5,000 plant was destroyed in less time than it takes to write of it. The property was then sold under a mortgage and purchased by Miss Sarah Gray and was managed by our subject for two years, at the end of which time the indebtedness was all paid and the firm became C. F. & S. F. Gray.

Mr. Gray has given his whole time and attention to his present business since becoming part proprietor, and as a result of his enterprise the town of Sidell boasts of the best tile factory in Eastern Illinois. He added to it the manufacture of brick in the spring of 1888. He gives employment to about twenty-three men and enjoys an extensive patronage throughout the county. The kilns and the drying-room machinery are models in their way, and constructed after the most approved patterns. The works turn out about 150 miles of tiling annually, running winter and summer. The brick business is in its infancy, but there is every prospect of its complete success. A railroad switch has been made by Mr. Gray so that he has shipping facilities over two roads, the Chicago & Eastern Illinois and the Chicago & Ohio River.

Although the personal interests of Mr. Gray necessarily occupy a large portion of his time and attention, he is found always willing to put his shoulder to the wheel in support of the enterprises calculated to promote the interests of Sidell and vicinity. He was one of the leading men in the erection of the elegant new brick school building and has been a member of the Board of Directors for the past four years. He belongs to the Baptist Church of Palermo, and is a Trustee and Treasurer of the new Methodist Episcopal Church at Sidell which has the finest church edifice in the county outside of Danville. He served as Town Clerk one year and in the spring of 1889 was the candidate of his party for Supervisor, but his ticket being in the minority, he was defeated. Socially, he is an active member of the I. O. O. F., Peace Dale, No. 225, in which he has filled all the chairs. He also belongs to the Encampment at Homer. He is likewise identified with the new Masonic lodge at Indianola in which he takes much interest. Of strictly temperance principles, he is a charter member of the lodge in Sidell, and is a man upon whom is naturally conferred many positions of trust and responsibility. As the appointed agent of the Sidell heirs he is looking after this property with that conscientious fidelity to duty which has marked all his transactions, and given him a position as a business man and a citizen second to none in his county.

HON. JACOB H. OAKWOOD, a man of much prominence in public life in Vermilion County, who is connected with its agricultural interests, owning and managing a valuable farm on section 33, Catlin Township, is the representative of a leading and well-known pioneer family of this county whose record is interwoven with its early history. His parents came here in the early days of settlement, and the father being a man of more than ordinary ability and under-

standing, though entirely a self-made and self-educated man, soon became very influential in the administration of public affairs, and was often sought out for advice and counsel. Oakwood Township, where he located, was named in his honor, and during his life he was instrumental in advancing its growth.

The Oakwood family originally came from Germany, but so long ago that all record of their arrival in this country has been lost. They were a thrifty, enterprising, well-to-do people, and have been land owners and home owners from their earliest known history. They settled in Virginia in colonial times, and the first member of the family of whom personal mention is made is the grandfather of our subject, who owned 400 acres of land in the Old Dominion near the town of Abingdon and close to the Tennessee line. He died when the father of our subject was quite young, leaving a widow, one son, and three daughters. One of his daughters married the late Jacob Hickman, whose family reside in this county. Another married Peter Hickman, who died, leaving two sons who settled in Missouri. The other daughter married a Mr. McCracken and remained in Tennessee. The grandmother of our subject married again, becoming the wife of Peter Hickman, who owned 800 acres of land, lying partly in Virginia and partly in Tennessee, a part of the dwelling house being in each State. The grandmother is said to have been a woman of many good qualities, and her step-children lauded her very highly, saying that she was the best woman in the world, a praise not often given to step-mothers.

Henry Oakwood, the father of our subject, was born either in Virginia or Tennessee, probably on the line between those States, and there he was reared to a vigorous manhood, remaining at home till he was twenty or twenty-one years of age, when, animated by the spirit of his pioneer sires, he sought to build a home for himself in the wilds of the more recently settled State of Ohio, and thus became an early settler of Brown County. He was a volunteer in the war of 1812, and took an active part in the battle in which the famous Indian chief, Tecumseh, was killed. He married Margaret Remley, who was probably born in Green County, Pa., their marriage taking place in Bracken County, Ky., and they settled in Brown County, Ohio, on land which he had previously bought, and there he was busily engaged at his occupation of farming. In October, 1833, he and his wife with their nine children came to Vermilion County, Ill., and located in what is now Oakwood Township the following spring, being among its earliest pioneers, and the township was subsequently named in his honor. Although he attended school but six weeks in his life, Henry Oakwood was fairly well educated for the times, his vigorous intellect compensating him for the lack of educational advantages, and being a man of keen vision, and well balanced mind, well dowered with firmness, activity and enterprise, he became a conspicuous figure in the public life of the township and county, and bore an honorable part in their government, holding many offices within the gift of his fellow-citizens, serving as County Commissioner, Justice of the Peace, etc. His death in 1855 was considered a serious blow to the interests of the community where he had made his home for more than twenty years, and his memory is still held in honor as that of a noble man, a leading pioneer, and a good citizen. His wife, who was in every way worthy of such a husband, survived him till 1877, when she too passed away in Oakwood Township. Of their family of nine children, six sons and three daughters, all were born in Brown County, Ohio, and all lived to maturity.

Jacob H. Oakwood, the subject of this biographical review, was their eighth child, and he was born Nov. 18, 1828. He was about five years old when he came with his parents to Vermilion County, and he has always made his home here since that time. He was reared to manhood in Oakwood Township, receiving such educational advantages as were afforded to the youth of his day. In 1857 he established himself in the mercantile business in Catlin Village, and was successfully engaged that and the following year, and in the years 1862, 1863. Aside from that he has given his attention entirely to agricultural pursuits and stock raising. He has a farm of 132 acres, which is well stocked, and in point of cultivation and improvements is equal to the other farms in the vicinity. Here he and his

family have an attractive home, neat in its appointments, and replete with all the comforts that enhance the pleasure of living.

Mr. Oakwood has been twice married. To the wife of his early manhood, whose maiden name was Isabella Caraway, he was united in marriage in Catlin Township, Feb. 13, 1851. She was a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (McCorkle) Caraway, who died in Catlin Township, of which they were early pioneers. She was a native of this township, born Nov. 27, 1834, and here her life closed Feb. 15, 1882, two days after the anniversary of her wedding that had occurred thirty-one years before. Of her happy married life with our subject eight children were born, as follows: Mary E. died Oct. 8, 1864, aged fourteen years; Charles H. married Dora Smith of Georgetown Township; George W. married Isabella Graves; Franklin died in infancy; Emma J. is the wife of L. W. Jeffres; two children who died in infancy; Anna, living at home with her father. Mr. Oakwood was married to his present estimable wife, formerly Mrs. Rosanna (Coleman) Alexander, widow of the late J. J. Alexander, in Danville, Ill., May 1, 1884.

Our subject bears worthily the mantle of his honored sire, and since the latter's death has seemed to fill his place, and has had a distinguished public career. His fellow-citizens have twice called him to one of the highest offices within their gift, that of State Representative, being elected as the candidate of the Republican party, and his course as a legislator marked him as a wise and efficient statesman, who looked carefully after the interests of his State and county. He was first elected to the General Assembly of Illinois in the fall of 1872, and served one term, and in the fall of 1876 he was again elected as a member of that honorable body. During his second term occurred the memorable contest for the United States Senatorship between Gen. John A. Logan and Judge David Davis. Mr. Oakwood has filled several of the local offices very acceptably, such as Township Clerk, Justice of the Peace, etc. He has taken a prominent part in the movement to deepen the interest in agriculture, to advance its growth, and to promote the study of the best methods of conducting it profitably, first in his position as Secretary of the Agricultural Society of Vermilion County for five years, and then as President of that organization, which position he filled ably and intelligently for the long term of twenty years. He is identified with the A. F. & A. M. as a member of Catlin Lodge, No. 285. He is a public spirited man in the truest sense of the term, has the dearest interests of his county and township at heart, and never neglects an opportunity to promote their welfare in every way possible. His personal character is irreproachable both in public and in private life, and he is ever courteous, considerate, and affable in his intercourse with all, and is held in high regard by the entire community.

FRANK V. BARNETT, one of the leading builders and contractors of Indianola, and a very rapid and efficient workman, has left the marks of his skill upon some of the most important buildings in this part of the county. Among them are the extensive steam grain elevators at Sidell and Broadlands, the largest structures of their kind on the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad, one having a storage capacity of 65,000 bushels, and a loading capacity of one car in twenty minutes. Both are fitted up with the latest and most improved machinery, the placing of which was superintended by Mr. Barnett, he setting the engines and locating the boilers. He takes pride in his business and has always aimed to excel. It must be admitted, he has come very near the realization of his hopes.

A native of Nicholas County, Ky., our subject was born within two miles of the celebrated Blue Lick Springs, whose name is contemporary with that of the Indian hunter, Daniel Boone. His father, Ambrose Barnett, was the son of John T. Barnett, one of the earliest pioneers of the Blue Grass State. The great-grandfather, John Barnett, was a native of Maryland and a noted frontiersman, conspicuous for his bravery and daring, and who bore a wound received at Fort Meigs. Indeed the whole family were prominent in the govern-

mental affairs of Kentucky, at a time when the settlers were seldom ever secure from the ravages of the Indians, and the agitation following the outbreak of the Revolutionary War.

In 1855 the father of our subject emigrated from his native State to Illinois, settling near Paris, in Edgar County. In 1863 he changed his residence to this county, locating on a tract of land in Carroll Township, where he labored as a carpenter and joiner, and departed this life in 1874, at the age of sixty-three years. The men of the Barnett family, as far back as the records go, were celebrated for their mechanical genius, being able to handle edged tools of all kinds, and to construct nearly everything required in those days. The mother of our subject survived her husband a number of years, dying in 1882, at the age of sixty-nine. The household circle was completed by the birth of six children, of whom the record is as follows: Frank V., our subject, was the eldest of the family; Elizabeth J. became the wife of Robert Anderson, and lives in Western Kansas; Nancy married William Spicer, and lives near Georgetown, Ill.; Mary A. is the wife of Tillman Smink, a farmer of Sidell Township; John died in childhood at Paris, Edgar County; James A. is a carpenter and blacksmith combined, and lives in Indianola.

The subject of this sketch was born Aug. 30, 1845, and studied his first lessons in the public school at May's Lick in Kentucky. He was a boy of ten years when the family came to Illinois, and distinctly remembers many of the incidents connected with the journey, and that they were among the first travelers over the new thoroughfare, known as the Terre Haute, Alton & St. Louis Railroad, now the "Bee" or the Indianapolis & St. Louis line. He enjoyed the journey immensely, and at its end made himself useful in the building up of the new homestead. Along with the hard work there also came much pleasure and recreation, and young Barnett being very skillful with his rifle was recognized as one of the most expert hunters of his neighborhood, bringing down many fine specimens of deer, wild turkey and other game.

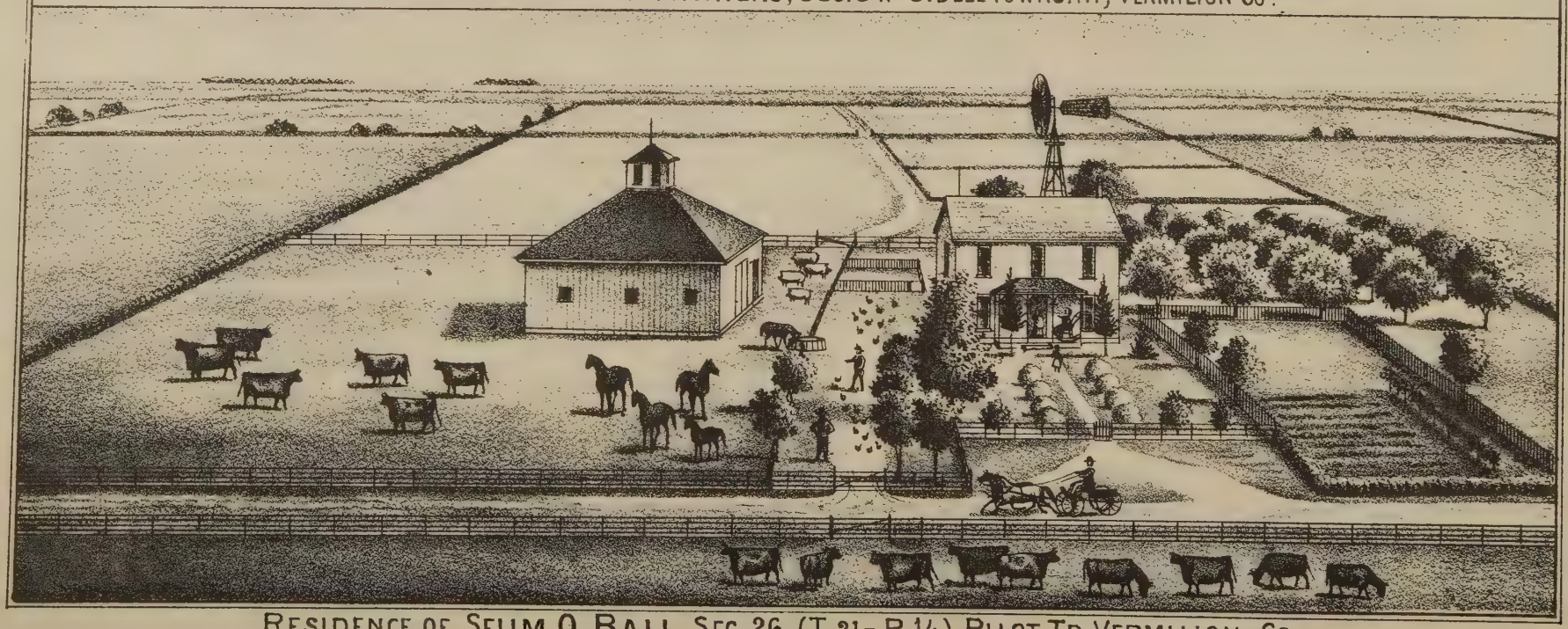
During those times also our subject assisted in the plowing, the sowing of crops and the harvest, besides working with his father at the trade of a carpenter. His education was obtained mostly during the short sessions of the winter school. In February, 1865, the Civil War being in progress, he entered the ranks of the Union Army as a member of Company E, 150th Illinois Infantry, which went into Camp Butler to drill, and from there journeyed south, where the regiment was held as a reserve at Bridgeport, Ala., Cleveland, Tenn., Dalton, Atlanta and Griffin, Ga. Not long afterward followed the surrender of the Confederate forces, and our subject received his final discharge without being required to participate in any active engagement. He was blessed usually with good health, never absent at roll call, never in a hospital, and never reprimanded for any misdemeanor.

After leaving the army our subject resumed the peaceful pursuits of farm life one year, then began to work with a ditching machine in Edgar and Vermilion counties, and was thus occupied four years. In 1869 he was united in marriage with Miss Isabel, daughter of John Stark, one of Vermilion County's earliest pioneers. This union has resulted in the birth of seven children, namely: Carrie E.; Sissie, who died in infancy; Ella and John, twins, both of whom died in infancy; William, also deceased in infancy; Melissa and Ruvilla.

Mr. Barnett has never had any weakness for official preferment, although he has his political preferences, which may be guessed at from the fact that he is best known in political circles as "the Democratic pole-raiser." At this business he has proved himself an expert, raising liberty poles at Ridge Farm, Indianola, Palermo, Catlin, Georgetown, Hume and other places. In addition to the structures already mentioned he has superintended the erection of school-houses at Indianola and Sidell, besides other important structures in different parts of the county.

Socially, Mr. Barnett was Master of Lodge No. 265, A. F. & A. M., in 1883–4–5 at Indianola, and has filled all the other offices of the lodge. He has represented it three times in the Grand Lodge at Chicago, and is a warm advocate of the principles of the brotherhood. In business and social circles he is a general favorite, being recognized as a man

RESIDENCE OF W.V. WINTERS, SEC. 34. SIDELL TOWNSHIP, VERMILION CO.



RESIDENCE OF SELIM O. BALL, SEC. 26. (T. 21- R. 14.) PILOT TP. VERMILION CO.

prompt to meet his obligations, and one whose word is considered as good as his bond.

WILLIAM VEST WINTERS. We find this gentleman in posession of one of the most attractive homesteads in this county, located in the northwest corner of Sidell Township. His farm is very valuable, under a high state of cultivation, and embellished with a commodious two-story frame residence set in the midst of a well-kept lawn, surrounded by handsome evergreens and other shade trees. We present on another page a fine view of this pleasant home with its lovely surroundings. A fine apple orchard adjacent and the well regulated outbuildings, are suggestive of the plenty and comfort which is one of the leading features in connection with this home, built up by one of the leading men of his township.

Mr. Winters is a man of large experience and great intelligence, of fine personal appearance and unlimited hospitality. He is a very strong Republican, politically, is fond of reading and study, and in his home are all the evidences of refined tastes —music, literature and the embellishments of modern art. The family is universally popular, and occupies an enviable position among the intelligent people of this region.

A native of Indiana, our subject was born Aug. 19, 1824, in Washington County, twelve miles south of Salem. He grew up on a farm and acquired his early education in the subscription schools. He first visited Illinois when a youth of nineteen or twenty years, but remained a member of the parental household until his marriage. This most interesting event in his life occurred on the 27th of March, 1847, the bride being Miss Nancy, daughter of John and Betsey Hepburn.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Winters settled on a farm in Carroll County, this State, where they sojourned for a period of fifteen years. Then, in 1868, they moved back to Vermillion County, Ind. In 1872 they came to this county, and for seven years thereafter made their home in Rossville, after which they removed to their present farm, which comprises 160 acres of choice land and which, with its appurtenances, constitutes one of the most desirable estates in this part of the county.

Nine children came to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Winters, the eldest of whom, a son, William, married Miss Martha Cosy and lives on a farm in Beadle County, Dak.; they have eleven children. Elizabeth is the wife of B. W. Macklin, who served through the entire Civil War, and is now farming in Champaign County; they have six children. Hannah is the wife of Mr. Harvey Thompson, also of Beadle County, Dak., and they have five children. John, a tinner by trade, resides in Huron, Beadle Co., Dak.; he married Miss Laura, daughter of Dr. Steele of Indiana, and they have two children; Martin married a Miss Braden and died, leaving his widow with two little girls; James married Miss Rosa Edwards, and is farming in Sidell Township; David married Miss Ottie Custer, and lives at the homestead; they have two children; Mary is the wife of Joseph Tattman of Sidell Township, and has charge of the homestead; Miranda, the youngest, is unmarried and remains with her parents.

In religious matters our subject and his excellent wife believe in an inspired religion, and Mr. Winters has always been the friend of education, doing whatever lay in his power to assist in the maintenance and establishment of schools in his township, and has occupied the unsalaried office of Director several terms.

In connection with his farming operations; Mr. Winters has followed threshing for the last twenty-five years, and thereby has added a snug little sum to his annual income. In this he is associated with Benjamin Macklin and Samuel Crow, and the three are accounted as among the leading men following this business in Vermilion and Champaign counties. They have a complete Rumley steam threshing outfit, which does beautiful and expeditious work.

The offspring of a good family, our subject is the son of Timothy and Jane (Scritchfield) Winters, who were natives respectively of New York and Pennsylvania. They were married in Washington County, Ind. The father made farming his principal occupation, although he also operated as

a pilot on the White River, during which time he landed many a cargo safely at its destination. He served in the War of 1812 and spent his last days in Indiana, dying in the prime of life. The mother survived her husband only one year, her death taking place when she was between thirty-five and forty years of age. She was the second wife of Mr. Winters and the mother of seven children, viz: Margaret, William V., our subject, Clinton and Alexander, who died in infancy, Mary, Sarah and McAllen. Of his first marriage there had been born six children.

SELIM O. BALL. This gentleman, a veteran of the late war in which he did gallant service for his country, is a fine representative of the shrewd and energetic members of the farming community of Pilot Township, who are prominent factors in upholding its material prosperity, and are among its most intelligent and public-spirited civic officials. He is prosperously engaged in mixed husbandry, raising grain and rearing stock, and his farm on section 36 is under a fine state of cultivation, and is provided with a neat and tasty set of buildings, including a commodious and well-built residence and a substantial, roomy barn, wtih all the needful machinery for lightening its labors.

Mr. Ball comes of sterling ancestry, and was born in West Bloomfield, Essex Co., N. J., Oct. 5, 1834. His father, Moses Ball was born in the same county in the month of July, 1801, and lived in the place of his birth till the year 1837, actively engaged at his trade as a mechanic, and then removed to Fayette County, Ohio, with his family, and is still living at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, respected and esteemed as a man of upright character, whose long life has been a worthy one. The good wife who walked hand in hand with him through so many years of his life, numbering more than half a century, passed away in April, 1884. Her maiden name was Jane Campbell, and she was, like himself, a native of Essex County, N. J. She was of Scotch lineage, and among her ancestry were the founders of the city of Newark, N. J. To her and her husband were born eight children, six of whom grew to maturity. John C., deceased, married Annie Davidson, of Madison County, Ohio, now living in Nebraska, and they had five children; Sarah is a retired school teacher, making her home in Ohio; Isaac has been twice married, his first wife was Miss Stitt of Ohio, and they had two children; after her death he married Mary Trimble, of Johnson County, Mo., where he is engaged in farming, and they have four children. Theodore, living in Bloomsburg, Ohio, married Helen Friend, of that State, and they have six children; Hattie married Mr. Allison, of Vermilion County, Ill., formerly of Terre Haute, Ind., now a merchant in Champaign County, Ill., and they have two children; Scott, a farmer in Colorado, married a Miss Laramore of Ohio, and they have three children; Mary and William died in infancy.

Selim Ball, of this biographical review, was given a common school education, and when he started out in life had no capital, aside from a strong young manhood, and had to make his way unaided to the honorable position he has since achieved. In January, 1858, he came to Illinois and bought forty acres of land in a wild state, but shortly after disposed of it at an advance, and purchased eighty acres of land unimproved. Selling that in 1861 he turned away from his personal interests to offer his services in defence of the stars and stripes, and enlisted in the 10th regiment of Illinois Infantry under command of Col. McWoods and Captain Wilson. Our subject was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea, and was honorably discharged at Washington in June, 1865, having done his duty as a soldier faithfully and efficiently.

After his return from the South Mr. Ball purchased a farm near Homer, in Champaign County, Ill. This he subsequently sold, making a good profit on the sum paid for it, and then invested some of his money in his present farm in Pilot Township, of which he has since been a highly respected resident, and, as before noted, has been very much prospered in his vocation.

Mr. Ball has been twice married. His first wife, Eleanor McCoy, of Ross County, Ohio, was born

in 1830, and died in June, 1867. Her parents, Alexander and Martha (Ocheltree) McCoy, were early settlers of the Buckeye State from Kentucky. By that union Mr. Ball became the father of five children, of whom Mary and Eleanor are deceased, and of the others it is recorded that Scott, a farmer, married Belle Franklin, of this county, and they have one child, Maggie; Jessie married Benjamin Strickland, a farmer of this county, and had four children: Earl, Mabel, Estella and Hans, the latter deceased. The present wife of our subject, to whom he was united in marriage in 1872 was Zeruah Roberts. She was born Nov. 22, 1854, her parents, Abraham and Elizabeth (Walters) Roberts, being of Welsh and English origin. They came to this county in 1865.

The pleasant home of our subject and his wife has been gladdened by the birth of four children, namely: Austin A., Sadie, Elise, Arena.

Mr. Ball is prompt and systematic in the management of his affairs, and brings to his work zeal and a good degree of proficiency in carrying it on intelligently by the most approved methods. These traits also render him invaluable as a township official, as has been found in his incumbency of the various local offices, and likewise as a juryman. In him the Republican party has an active and stanch supporter. He and his wife are members in high standing of the United Brethren Church, being among its most earnest workers, and he has held the different offices of the church. Mr. Ball is a reader of good literature, keeps himself closely informed on all topics of general interest, and can converse well on all subjects.

A view of the pleasant rural home of Mr. and Mrs. Ball is presented elsewhere in this volume, and is a fine illustration of one of the representative residences of Vermilion County.

THOMAS R. RICE, is one of the wealthy and influential farmers of Carroll Township and one of its largest land-owners. His home farm consists of a little over a quarter of a section of the productive land of Illinois, and besides this he owns about 420 acres in other parts of the county, all of which he has accumulated through industry, sobriety and a good use of his opportunities.

Mr. Rice was born June 22, 1825 in eastern Tennessee. His father and mother, Charles and Mary Jane (Rhea) Rice, were also natives of that State. They came to Ohio when Thomas was a child of two years, and in 1835 settled in Vermilion Grove, residing for a few years before that in Madison County, Ind. The father was a prominent farmer and when he died was considered a wealthy man. His death occurred when he was seventy-four years old, and his wife was about fifty-four years of age when she died. They had five children—William, Thomas R., Jacob, James and Mary.

Thomas spent part of his boyhood days in Indiana, but most of his younger experience has been in Illinois. He attended private subscription schools, but never went to a free school a day in his life. During his boyhood days his health was extremely poor, and the early schools of the subscription sort that obtained in Illinois, were not calculated to be conducive to anybody's health. Many times they were so far distant that it occupied from two to three hours to reach them, and when they were reached they were destitute of comfort and their only characteristic, perhaps, that would interest the scholar was the frowns and birch rod of the alleged teacher. To compare these schools with those of our day, would be as a comparison of Sodom and Gomorrah to Eden. Mr. Rice grew up among the Quakers of Elwood Township, working on his father's farm until after he attained his majority. In those days he hauled wheat to Chicago, for which he received fifty cents per bushel, and transported shelled corn by team to Lafayette getting therefor a shilling a bushel.

In 1868, Mr. Rice was married to Susan Baum. [See sketches of the Baums in this ALBUM.] After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Rice settled on a farm, purchased by him some years before, where they have prospered. They have two children—Minnie May and Charles F. Their elegant brick mansion, situated pleasantly just south of Indianola, is a beautiful and commodious one. This house was erected in 1879 and contains everything to make

life desirable, while the entire premises give evidence of prosperity and good management. In the pastures of this farm there can be seen some of the very finest cattle and horses in this section of the country. Mr. Rice is respected by his neighbors for his public-spiritedness, and many good traits of character. Politically, he acts with the Democratic party.

WILLIAM A. VANNEMAN. One of the most beautiful homes in Carroll Township is that of Mr. Vanneman, which is situated on section 27. Everything about it, within and without, gives evidence of the touch that beautifies and the taste that refines. Thrift and prosperity have gone hand in hand with intelligence and culture, and the result is an ideal rural home. It has taken years, however, to rear this monument to man's industry and woman's refined taste, and the proprietor may well regard it and the broad, well-tilled and fertile acres, in the midst of which it is situated, with pardonable pride, for both the home and farm at large are speaking witnesses of the career of patient and persevering industry which have been exercised in its construction.

The life of our subject has been an extremely busy one, in which he has used his brains as well as his hands, and his prosperity is but the legitimate outcome of well directed and intelligent effort. The career of such a man cannot but prove interesting, and we therefore give below the story of his labors, which furnishes but another evidence of the fact that success and prosperity seldom fail to reward the efforts of those who with dilligence and frugality pursue their way, and are content, not only to labor, but to wait.

Mr. Vanneman comes of German ancestry. His grandparents on both sides of the house emigrated to America soon after the close of the Revolutionary War. His parents, Andrew and Ann (Miller) Vanneman, were born in Salem County, N. J., about the beginning of the present century. The father was a farmer by occupation, and died while his son William was but an infant, leaving besides him his sisters, Annie and Margaret. The former is now Mrs. Waddington, of Salem, N. J.; the latter married a Mr. Simpkins, and died at the age of thirty years, leaving one child.

The father of our subject was a fine-looking tall man, with blonde complexion and light blue eyes. He was given a college education, and after removing to Brown County, Ohio, operated as a farmer and teacher. In 1839 he came to this State, and settled in Elwood Township, but a few years later removed to Carroll Township. He soon became active in public matters, and served for a number of years as Township Supervisor and School Trustee. During the war he was Overseer of the Poor. He died suddenly of heart disease, in the seventy-fourth year of his age, and until six months prior to his decease was robust, hearty, and apparently healthy in every way.

A few years after the death of Mr. Vanneman the mother of our subject married Joseph Mapes, by whom she had four children—Emily, Joseph B., Thomas and Jane. William A., our subject, was born March 11, 1826, and lived in Salem County, N. J., until a boy of thirteen years. He then entered a drug store in Wilmington, Del., having in view the study of medicine. The lack of means necessary to give him a college education compelled him to change his plans, and accordingly, returning to New Jersey, he apprenticed himself to a painter and grainer. After serving the required time, five years, he at the age of twenty and a half began work for his instructor as a journeyman. He soon became very skillful, and was given steady employment at good wages. Painting, notwithstanding he liked it, was injurious to his health, and a change of occupation became a necessity. Therefore, at the age of twenty-five years, he and his brother-in-law, Joshua Waddington, came to Illinois for the purpose of engaging in agriculture and stock-raising.

Upon their arrival in this county our subject and Mr. Waddington purchased the farm, then consisting of 320 acres, upon which Mr. Vanneman's home now stands. Before the deed could be made out Mr. Vanneman purchased the interest of his brother-in-law, and in 1853 moved his family from New Jersey to this county. They proceeded by rail as

far as LaFayette, Ind., then the railroad terminus of the West, and the remainder of the journey was made overland by team.

Being now installed in his new home, in a new country, Mr. Vanneman proceeded with the task of changing the virgin prairie into productive fields. He worked early and late. Daylight was so precious and so necessary for pressing work, that he made his needed purchases at the store after nightfall. The cows were often milked before daylight and after dark. In connection with his farm work Mr. Vanneman followed his trade of painting, graining and decorating, and many evidences of his skill as a workman, and taste as an artist, may still be found in the neighborhood where he resides. The interior decorations of his own handsome residence are highly artistic, and exhibit much originality.

As Mr. Vanneman prospered he added to his possessions, and enlarged the home place until it embraced nearly 400 acres of land. He also acquired 400 acres in Sidell Township, and twenty acres in the heart of Ridge Farm. At one time his landed possessions in Illinois and Iowa amounted to about 1,600 acres. When Albert, his youngest son, became of age he gave him and his other two children, Mary and Franklin, each eighty acres of land. He also sold several tracts, leaving as his present estate 320 acres in Sidell Townihip, and the homestead in Carroll Township. The latter, when Mr. Vanneman first moved upon it, in 1853, contained much swampy land, but by intelligent ditching, draining and tiling, he has converted the swamp into rich and productive fields, whose exhaustless soil seems to know no deterioration. As the result of many years of hard labor Mr. Vanneman is now in well-to-do circumstances, and ranks as one of the wealthiest and most influential farmers and stock-raisers of this county.

In 1849 Mr. Vanneman was married to Miss Margaret E. Miller, a native of Cumberland County, N. J., and when they came to Illinois, in 1853, they were the proud parents of two bright little girls. The first great shadow fell upon the household in the death of the wife and mother, which occurred June 17, 1876, in New Jersey, whither she had gone purposing to visit the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia. The home of her infancy and youth was at Bridgeton, in Edgar County, where her father occupied himself as a farmer and tanner. Mrs. Vanneman in her youth was a Hicksite Friend, but after her marriage she and her husband joined the Orthodox Friends. She had three sisters and two brothers—Elizabeth, Margaret, Anna, John and Franklin. The latter is now a blacksmith in Indianola.

Mary, the eldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Vanneman, attended school at Bloomingdale, Ind.; Frank and Albert were students of the Friends' Academy, at Vermilion Grove, and later Albert graduated from the Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, Ill; Anne M., the youngest daughter, died at the age of four years; and Howard, the youngest born, died when but eighteen months old; Mary M. is the wife of William D. Brown, an active temperance worker, and a recorded minister of the Friends' Church. She is now at Long Beach, Cal. She is the mother of two daughters—Ruth and Mattie, aged sixteen and fourteen years respectively. Franklin, the third child of Mr. and Mrs. Vanneman, is located at Hickory Grove, in Sidell Township; he married Miss Margaret Canady, and is the father of three children. Albert, the youngest child living, was graduated from Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, Ill., and soon afterward starting out to seek his fortune, proceeded to Dakota and engaged in teaching school. He is now in the real-estate business in California.

On the 14th day of August, 1877, Mr. Vanneman contracted a second marriage with Miss Emma C., daughter of Leonard and Catherine (Baum) Patterson. Leonard Patterson was born in Kentucky, but when a child of eight years removed with his parents to Brown County, Ohio. John Patterson, the paternal grandfather, was of Irish descent, and a man who in stature and presence universally commanded attention, being very large and tall, with a fair complexion and blue eyes. He engaged in farming, and for many years was a lay minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His mother, Mary Sellers, was a native of Germany.

Mr. Patterson, politically, was a Whig until that party went out of existence, when he identified himself with the Republicans. He was the father

of six children—Augustus D., Josephine A., Emma C., John H., Charles M., and Albert W., all of whom lived to mature years. The last mentioned was drowned in the Little Vermilion River, when about twenty-five years old and unmarried. Mrs. Catherine (Long) Patterson was of Polish ancestry, and in whose veins flowed the blood of kings and princes of that unfortunate country. She was the daughter of Charles Baum, who after the dismemberment of Poland was banished from his native land by the Russians, and made his home in Germany for a number of years. He came to America about the time of the Revolutionary War, and served with the militia on the frontier, protecting the settlers from the British soldiery and their savage allies. After the war was over Mr. Baum took up his residence in Bucks County, Pa., where he continued to live until the year after Gen. Anthony Wayne's treaty with the Indians. Then with his family he moved back to Ohio, sailing down the "beautiful river" in a flat boat, and landing near the mouth of Bullskin Creek. Here they began their first settlement, in the then new Territory of Ohio.

It will be seen therefore that Mrs. Vanneman is the descendant of a hardy, rugged and liberty-loving race. Her parents, Leonard and Catherine (Baum) Patterson, were married in Clermont County, Ohio, and she was their third child and eldest daughter. She was born in Elwood Township, this county, July 26, 1840. Her father owned 140 acres of choice land, and was in good circumstances. He was well read, and religiously inclined, though not a member of any church. He died Sept. 19, 1884.

Mrs. Vanneman is a lady of culture and excellent education. She is a lover of music, and supplemented her early education by a judicious reading of the best authors. The fine library which adds to the attractions of this beautiful home bears testimony to the tastes and inclinations of its inmates. Personally Mrs. Vanneman is very attractive, and possesses a kindly and loveable disposition. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Indianola, and takes an active interest in its affairs.

Mr. Vanneman during his long career of honorable industry has never sought or accepted office. An anti-slavery Whig, and a Republican during and since the war, he has remained true to his political principles with neither noise nor parade, and has been the stanch friend of religion and education, contributing liberally in aid of both, and endowing a scholarship in Vermilion Grove Academy. He has served as School Director and on the Petit Jury, and is a thorough temperance man, although he has never allied himself with those who seek to make that a question of political issue. He is self-made and self-taught, energetic and progressive, and is acknowledged by all to be one of the most public-spirited citizens of his county.

JOHN MENDENHALL. Although four-score years of age, this old and highly respected resident of Carroll Township is still a sprightly, active and vigorous man. Of him it may be said as one of old, "his eye is not dimmed nor is his natural strength abated." His mind, memory and body have withstood the ravages of time. As the result of a temperate and abstemious life, old age finds him free from the decrepitude usually consequent upon advanced years. His present hale appearance and rugged health give promise of another decade at least, of placid and peaceful life.

Mr. Mendenhall is the scion of a hardy and long-lived Scotch-Irish ancestry, the son of Aaron Mendenhall by his second wife, Lydia Anderson. His father was born in Guilford, N. C., near the scene of the battle of Guilford Court-House, and fought between the British and the Continentals during the Revolutionary War. His paternal grandfather, Richard Mendenhall, was killed by the Indians while on his way from North Carolina to Ohio, soon after the opening up of that Territory, and was one of the many daring and intrepid pioneers who lost their lives while endeavoring to plant civilization in the Western wilderness in the face of a murderous and merciless savage foe.

At this time the father of our subject was a small child. His maternal grandmother was a native of

Nantucket, Mass. After marriage she removed to Greene County, Ohio, where his mother was born. Prior to her marriage with Mr. Mendenhall she had buried one husband. By the first, a Mr. Horney, she became the mother of five children—Hester, Paris, Deborah, Rhoda and Anderson, are all deceased. By her marriage with Aaron Mendenhall she was the mother of six children: John, our subject, was born Nov. 3, 1809; Aaron died half a century ago; Lydia is the widow of Joseph Beard, and is living in Carroll Township; Nancy is the wife of M. L. Larrance, of Carroll Township; Elizabeth, the widow of John Mills, also lives in this township, and Richard died here in May, 1889.

When Mr. Mendenhall was a youth of fifteen years his parents, leaving the Buckeye State, emigrated to this county and settled upon the farm now owned by Silas Baird. The father entered 240 acres of land about the year 1824, when Illinois was one vast wilderness—a prairie peopled only by Indians and wild animals. Like all the early settlers his parents endured the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. They were, however, brave and stout-hearted and did successful battle in subduing the virgin prairie to the uses of agriculture. Being thrifty and industrious people their children were early broken into farm work. John's rugged frame was made strong and his muscles were hardened, following the plow and tilling the soil with the rude implements in use in those primitive days. His educational advantages were few, and confined to such instruction as could be obtained in a subscription school, whenever an itinerant preacher happened along and organized one.

Politically, to use his own expressive language, Mr. Mendenhall was "a Whig morning, noon and afternoon" as long as that party was in power. He cast his first vote for Henry Clay, and looked upon that leader as one of America's greatest statesmen. Later he became a decided Republican. He served six years as a School Director and was never summoned to attend court other than as a petit juror. Religiously, he has been a Friend for twenty-five years and a liberal contributor according to his means to the support of Vermilion Grove Academy. Nov. 24, 1831, he was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca, daughter of John and Charity Mills. Mrs. Mendenhall was born Nov. 8, 1812, twenty miles east of Knoxville in Jefferson County, Tenn. Her parents prior to this had removed from North Carolina. Her mother was a daughter of Mordecai Mendenhall, and was of Scotch-Irish descent. In this family there were eleven children: Ruth died at the age of eighty-three years; Williams died when past seventy; Hannah died in 1823, when a maiden of eighteen years; Sarah died in 1879, aged nearly eighty; Ira died in Missouri about 1881, at the age of seventy-four; Miriam is the wife of H. Hayworth, of Vermilion Grove; Rebecca, Mrs. Mendenhall, was the next in order of birth; Millican is living in this township, aged seventy-four; John died at about the age of thirty years, probably thirty years ago; Charty J. died when four years old, and Lanty died in infancy.

Mrs. Mendenhall was nine years of age when her parents, in 1822, removed from Tennessee to this State. Her educational advantages, like those of her husband, were limited, but she learned to read and spell at home, and was carefully trained in the doctrines of the Quaker faith. Of her union with our subject there were born eleven children, and they can now gather about them forty-eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Their eldest child, Millican, died when about fifty-five years old; James died when a lad of twelve; Charity Jane, Mrs. Thomas C. Reese, and Sarah, Mrs. John W. Elliott, live at Ridge Farm; Francis Marion died at the age of twenty-six years of paralysis contracted in the army during the late war; Rhoda died at the interesting age of eighteen years; Aaron H. lives on a farm in Carroll Township; Lydia died when four years old; John M. is a farmer and a resident of Carroll Township; Emeline married Silas Hester and died at the age of thirty-three years, leaving four children; Louisa E. is the wife of Frank E. Baird and the mother of five children—Lester W., Albert C., Blanche R., Algia M., and an infant, Wilber J. The son, Francis Marion, enlisted in Company A, 79th Illinois Infantry, in July, 1862, and served until Aug. 20, 1864; he died shortly after his return home.

Mr. Mendenhall is a ruddy faced, well built and well preserved old gentleman, one of the finest specimens of an octogenarian in Central Illinois.

His mind is active, his memory bright and clear, and his eyesight good. His healthful looking complexion, sparkling eye, and vigorous, active step betoken both health and strength not usually found in one so aged. His wife is a quiet, placid-mannered, motherly looking old lady, and but three years younger than her husband. She does not appear to be much above sixty. There is a purity of expression in her face, which reveals a mind that has often communed in prayer with Him who doeth all things well. Although she has known sorrow, it has but made her life sweeter and her hope brighter. One does not need to be told that she is a sincere and earnest Christian, whose faith will endure to the end.

JOHN W. FISHER, of Carroll Township is recognized as one of its most wealthy farmers, who has accumulated a fine property solely by the exercise of his own inherent industry and perseverance. His early advantages were quite limited, he being thrown largely upon his own resources and obliged to fight the battle of life for some time with little to encourage him. The fact that he is now the owner of 980 acres of land is sufficient indication of the manner in which he has spent his time, and illustrates forcibly what a man may accomplish by a resolute will, prudence, economy and good management.

The subject of this sketch was born Jan. 25, 1840, on the old Fisher homestead in this township where he grew to man's estate and acquired a practical education in the common school. He worked on the farm and about the time of reaching his majority, was married, in 1861, to Miss Mary L. Dye. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fisher settled on forty acres of land in Carroll Township, which Mr. Fisher had purchased prior to this time, and which formed the nucleus of his present large estate. He later received from his father's estate 176 acres, and like the wise man of Scripture, has been enabled to add to his talent in a marked degree. Upon locating here, his land was a cornfield without trees or buildings, and the improvements which embellish the present homestead have been effected by him.

Eight children were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, the eldest of whom, a son, Everette, died at the interesting age of fifteen years; Charles married Miss Jennie Meyers and lives in Sidell Township, they have one child, Charles, who is farming near Sidell; Olive died when two years old; Eddie is at home with his parents; Armeda married Douglas Miller of Carroll Township, and they have one child, Winona; Mattie died when eight years old; Josephine and Jacob remain with their parents. Mr. Fisher votes the straight Democratic ticket, but in looking after his extensive farming interests, has little time to devote to politics.

Our subject is the son of David P. and Jane (Weaver) Fisher, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Massachusetts. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Michael Weaver, lived to be a centenarian and was one of the leading pioneers of this county, to which he came from Ohio where he had accumulated a large amount of property. He was noted for his strict honesty and upright dealings with his fellow men. The Weaver family was of excellent ancestry, and various members of them are reverted to elsewhere in this ALBUM.

David P. Fisher, the father of our subject, lived in Indiana before coming to this State and had only $1 in his pocket when he came to this county. By untiring industry and great prudence in living he gained a solid footing, financially, becoming the owner of nearly 1,000 acres of land. His career is that of an upright man and a good citizen and he lived to reach the age of seventy-two years, passing away in 1880. His wife survives and lives with her son Michael, being now seventy-six years old. The five children of the parental household were named respectively: Michael, John W., our subject, Mary J., George W. and Lucinda. Mary was married and died at the age of twenty-four years, leaving two daughters, Jennie and Nora. The other brothers and the sister of our subject are still living.

Mrs. Fisher is the daughter of Lawrence and Mary Ann (Van Treese) Dye, to whom were born nine children, viz.: Hiram, (deceased), Martha,

Phebe, (deceased). Elizabeth, Albert who died in infancy, Angeline, John, Mary L., Mrs. Fisher. All but the youngest were born in Kentucky. Mrs. Fisher was only one and one-half years old when her parents came to Illinois and settled in Georgetown Township. The mother died at the age of forty-three years. The father lived to be seventy years old. During the Civil War and when he was past fifty years old, he enlisted as a Union soldier from conscientious motives, feeling that it was his duty to give his services to his country.

JOHN B. HILDRETH, one of the first-class agriculturists of Carroll Township, owns and operates a well-regulated farm of 352 acres, ninety acres of which lie in Vermilion County and 262 in Edgar County. The residence is in the former. The leading features in the character of Mr. Hildreth are his strict attention to business, his promptness in meeting his obligations and his excellent understanding of all the branches of general agriculture. In person, he is a man who would attract attention in a crowd, being of commanding presence, of portly figure and a handsome and intelligent countenance. He numbers his friends by the score in this county and welcomes beneath its hospitable roof its best people. He has a beautiful home where he has effected modern improvements, including a commodious dwelling, handsomely and conveniently arranged and second to none in this part of the county. His standing in society is first-class and in his political affiliations he is in sympathy with the Democratic party. The Hildreth family prior to their removal to Illinois flourished in the South, some of them in Bourbon County, Ky., where Alvin K., the father of our subject, and his wife, Sarah A., Retter, were born and where they were reared and married. Leaving the Blue Grass State about 1832 they came to this county and settled on the Little Vermilion, on the tract of new land from which they constructed a homestead, where they spent the remainder of their lives, and where they died. The father died July 19, 1874, and the mother July 1, 1877. There were born to them eleven children, viz: Mary E., William H., five who died in infancy, Sarah A., John B., our subject, Louvisa and Parthenia; four of these are living and residents of Vermilion and Edgar counties.

The subject of this sketch was born March 19, 1842, in Carroll Township, this county, and here has spent his entire life. He was at an early age introduced to the various employments of the farm and chose its peaceful pursuits as his vocation. When ready to establish domestic ties of his own, he was married to Miss Philetta Ross, of Edgar County. This lady became the mother of four children, only two of whom are living—Carrie A. is the wife of William Black, of Carroll Township, and Alice remains at home with her father.

Our subject contracted a second matrimonial alliance with Miss Eliza Barnett, daughter of Robert Barnett, and of this union there have been born two children, only one of whom is living, a daughter—Daisy. The present wife of our subject was formerly Miss Sarah A. Cook, and they have four children—John O., Emma, May Jennie and Lennie L.

ROBERT S. SLAUGHTER. By far the greater portion of the solid men of Vermilion County have been those who commenced life dependent upon their own resources, and who, gathering together their possessions little by little, were blest with the faculty of being able to take care of them. It is not alone the man who is able to make money that is able to keep it; indeed the latter faculty seems to be one of the most importance, and the ability to disburse with good judgment and free from avarice is, perhaps, the best quality of all.

The snug farm of the subject of this notice comprises eighty-one and one-half acres of land on section 25 in Elwood Township, and makes a pleasant and comfortable homestead, every acre of which he earned with the labor of his hands. It is all under a good state of cultivation, with good buildings, substantial fences, and the other appliances necessary to the modern and well-regulated

estate. Mr. Slaughter is comparatively a young man, having been born Dec. 28, 1849, and is a native of Hardin County, Ky. His father, George R. Slaughter, also a native of that county, removed at an early day to Vermillion County, Ind., where he sojourned two years, and until 1860. That year he came to Edgar County, Ill., settling in Prairie Township, where he now lives.

The boyhood and youth of our subject passed quietly and uneventfully, while he assisted his father on the farm and attended the common school. At the age of twenty-five years he was married, March 1, 1885, to Miss Emma, daughter of John Humrichous, a well-known resident of Elwood Township, and a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Slaughter are the parents of two children, a daughter, Artie Frances, born May 18, 1886; and an infant unnamed. Mrs. Slaughter was born in Elwood Township, March 14, 1867, and remained mostly with her parents until her marriage. She is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, while our subject guides his life by the Golden Rule and belongs to the Masonic fraternity. He is firmly established as a respected citizen, with the prospect of a competence for his declining years.

CHRISTIAN FAGNER. The character and standing of a man are usually determined by what he has accomplished. The life-work of Mr. Fagner is finely illustrated in the amount of property which he has accumulated and the comforts by which he is surrounded. He has one of the most attractive homesteads in township 23, range 12, finely located on section 33. This embraces 200 acres of choice land while he has a farm in the township south.

The Fagner farm is supplied with first-class buildings and an especially fine and commodious barn—one of the best in the township. Everything about the premises are kept in good shape, from the live-stock to the farm machinery, and the many conveniences which the proprietor has gathered about himself and family indicate the progressive character of the man. He comes of substantial stock and is a native of Pennsylvania, having been born in Dauphin County, Dec. 15, 1835. When a year old his parents removed to Lancaster County, where he spent his youthful days until reaching his majority. He received the advantages of the common schools and became familiar with farming pursuits as carried on in the Keystone State.

At the age of twenty-one our subject, ambitious to do for himself, left the parental roof and making his way to Fountain County, Ind., located in Covington, where he sojourned eight years, employing himself for a time at anything he could find to do—principally at painting. Thence he went to Warren County, one mile from the Illinois line and remained there ten years. In 1867 he rented a farm upon which he operated two years; prior to this he had worked six years in order to get a team. In 1877 he crossed over into Illinois and purchased 200 acres of land from which he constructed his present admirable farm. The years which followed were replete with labor and the exercise of great prudence and economy in living, this course faithfully followed producing the results which we look upon to-day. One of the most attractive features of the homestead is a fine large grove adjacent to the residence, while around it is choice shrubbery, and near by, a fine orchard in good bearing condition, with trees of the smaller fruits.

One secret of Mr. Fagner's success has been his faculty of attending strictly to his own concerns. In political affairs he has refused to be bound by party lines, and supports the men whom he considers best qualified for office, independent of Republican or Democrat.

The wife of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Louisa Schwalen, was born in Schuylkill County, Pa., Oct. 18, 1841, and they were married Feb. 7, 1861 in Pennsylvania. Soon afterward they removed to Indiana. The three children born to them are all living. Frederick E., is a resident of Dakota; Alice married John Bauman, of Ross Township; Anna May is their only child; William H. remains at home with his parents. The father of our subject was John Fagner, a native of Germany and born in 1802. He emigrated to America when a single man, settled in Pennsylvania and was

there married to Miss Margaret Miley. He came to Indiana in 1861 and purchased a farm in Warren County, near the Illinois line, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1884, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. The wife and mother departed hence twenty-three years prior to the decease of her husband, her death taking place in 1861. They were the parents of six children, five of whom are living and located mostly in Illinois and Indiana.

LUTHER A. RIGGS. This gentleman has been a resident of Illinois since 1860, and with the exception of two years has spent that entire period in Vermilion County. He was born in Washington County, Pa., Oct. 29, 1830, and is a son of Joseph Cook and Bethany (Axtell) Riggs, the former a native of New Jersey, born March 28, 1788, and the latter born in Washington County, Pa., April 7, 1792. Joseph Riggs was about eight years of age when his parents removed from New Jersey to Washington County in 1796. His early life was therefore one of toil and hardship in the dense wilderness. All of his life was spent in the occupation of farming in Washington County, where he died June 19, 1849, at the age of sixty-two years, two months and twenty-two days. He had been married three times and was the father of a large family, the subject of this sketch being a child of the third wife. His wife died in Dec. 1863, aged seventy years and nine months. Of their seven children five are yet surviving: Hannah, born Nov. 13, 1819, is the widow of Cephas Condit, and is still living in Pennsylvania; Eunice was born Sept. 21, 1824, and is the wife of James Peden and lives in Danville, this county; Sophia was born Oct. 6, 1833; she is unmarried and makes her home with her brother in Washington County, Pa.; Joseph was born June 18, 1838 and also lives in the last mentioned place; Luther A., of whom this written. The deceased were named: Lucinda, born Nov. 2, 1827, who became the wife of Washington Gregory and died in this county April 16, 1870, and Esenath, born Feb. 23 1822, who was the wife of John Peden and died April 5, 1852, in Washington County, Pa.

Luther A. Riggs was brought up to farming, first on a farm on Ten Mile Creek in his native county, which had belonged to his grandfather, descending to his father. When young, however, his father sold his place and removed to Greene County, Pa., returning to Washington County several years afterward. In these places Luther spent his early life, but he had his thoughts turned toward the broad prairies of the West, on which he believed farming could be more easily and comfortably prosecuted. When he was twenty-seven years old he made an arrangement with his future brother-in-law, John Carter, to come with him to Edgar County, Ill., where the latter had rented a farm. Taking his own team and putting it in with one of Mr. Carter's he made the trip alone with the four horses, his wagon loaded with household goods. He was on the road nineteen days, arriving in Grand View, Edgar Co., Ill., April 10, 1857, where he remained six months, returning to Pennsylvania in the fall. A strong attraction, however, existed in Illinois, which brought him back to Edgar County with a view of settling down, and on Aug 25, 1860, he was there married to Miss Deborah Carter, whom he had known about all his lifetime in his native county.

Mrs. Riggs was born in Washington County, Pa., April 9, 1828. Her parents were Harvey and Charlotte (Clark) Carter, the former of whom lived and died there in September, 1840, when he was but thirty-seven years of age, having been born in the year 1803. The mother survived her husband nearly forty years, remaining a widow and doing her part nobly in bringing up her family of seven young children. She died in Vermilion County in November, 1878, full of honors and years. Her eldest son, Ezekiel, came to Edgar County, Ill., in 1851, and two years later she, with the rest of the family, followed, locating near him. She was accompanied by her sons, William and Harvey, and her daughters Deborah and Rebecca. They lived in Edgar County, Ill., two years and then came to Vermilion County, locating on a farm about fourteen miles southwest of Danville, and there the faithful wife and devoted mother lived until her

death. Four of her sons, Ezekiel, John, William and Harvey are farmers in the southwestern portion of the county. Her daughter Rebecca is the widow of John Ross and resides in Rossville, this county. Another daughter named Lottie, died in girlhood.

Mr. Riggs and his wife removed to Vermilion County in the autumn of 1862 and rented a farm in Carroll Township, where they lived two years, then rented another for a year. His first purchase of land was made at this time, when he bought eighty acres of uncultivated prairie which was destitute of any kind of vegetation except a luxuriant growth of grass. He built a small house into which he moved in the spring of 1866. At once he began the labor of improving it, and soon had a part of it broken, giving to it much hard labor, and the result was a finely cultivated farm, which has now on it good buildings, is all well fenced and drained and is in every respect first-class. Here he made his home for twenty-one years and there his eldest son, Harvey J., now lives. As the years rolled by prosperity came to the pioneer and his wife, and easier times were in store for them. Three children grew up around their hearthstone, and as they got old enough, shared and lightened the labors of their parents. One child died in infancy.

In the spring of 1887 Mr. and Mrs. Riggs gave up their old home and removed to a place of 160 acres, which he had bought in Grant Township. Here they have a comfortable home and good surroundings, and are sitting in the twilight of old age, enjoying what they have earned by long years of patient labor and thrift. The farm is carried on by their sons, Cyrus and Frank. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Riggs has been blessed by the birth of four children, as follows: Harvey J., born Aug. 23, 1861, who married Miss Dora West; Cyrus A. was born Feb. 3, 1864, while Frank L., first saw the light of day April 15, 1870; John E. was born Feb. 14, 1866, and died July 31, 1866. They have also an adopted daughter, Flora B. Devenger, whom they are rearing as their own, and who goes by her adopted parents' name.

During the more than thirty years that have elapsed since Mr. Riggs first came to Illinois, great changes have occurred, and since taking up his residence in Vermilion County he has witnessed and participated in its growth, from its wild and unsettled state to its present condition, as one of the most prosperous agricultural counties of the eastern part of the State. Mr. Riggs has done his share in its transformation. He has been a hard-working man all his life, and has but little time or inclination for politics, and has held but a few minor offices. In his fourteenth year he joined the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and he and his wife are both members of that organization at Pleasant Ridge, of which for several years he was an Elder. By the people who know him well, Luther A. Riggs is spoken of as an honorable, upright and trust-worthy man and most excellent citizen.

CHARLES A. BAKER, one of the younger members of the farming community of Ross Township, is comfortably established on section 9, where he is successfully conducting a well-regulated farm and has seemingly a very fair outlook for the future. He is not yet twenty-eight years old, having been born Oct. 19, 1861, in Harrisburg, Dauphin Co., Pa. When a little lad of six years he went to live with his Grandmother Yost, in Womelsdorf, and remained with her until fourteen years old. Thence he repaired to Allentown, Pa., where he attained his majority and after one or two changes, came to this State in 1884 and located at Rossville, this county. In his native State he had gained considerable experience in mercantile business, having officiated as clerk in both a grocery and dry-goods store, but after coming to this county, he took up house-painting, which he followed a year, and later became interested in farming pursuits.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was by birth a Frenchman, while his grandmother was of English ancestry. Their son Cornelius, the father of Charles A. Baker, was born and reared in Dauphin County, Pa. He was there married to Miss Mary Shower, a native of Lebanon County, Pa., and who died in 1872 at the age of forty-four years, leaving a family of eleven children. The father is still living and a resident of Reading, Pa.

The brothers and sisters of our subject were named respectively, William B., Silas C., Emma, the wife N. D. Redinger, of Allentown, Pa.; Leah, Mrs. Isaac De Turk, of Rossville, this county; Edwin C., Samuel D., Katie, Mrs. Christopher Garman, of of Pennsylvania; Harry M., Magdalena, Mrs. William Rummel, of Reading, Pa., and who died in April, 1889; and Susan C. The father married for his second wife Miss Sally A. Snyder, of Reading, Pa. He has been a member of the Evangelical Church since a lad of fourteen years and since 1861 has officiated as a minister of that body. The mother also belonged to the same church and died firm in the faith.

Charles A. Baker was married Feb. 28, 1888, to Miss Catherine, daughter of Thomas Armstrong, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this ALBUM. The young people have a very nice home and the wishes of hosts of friends for their future happiness and prosperity.

THOMAS REYNOLDS. Gibbon has said well that every man has two educations, one which is given him, and the other and most important that which he gives himself. Sir Walter Scott emphasized this, when he said: The best part of a man's education is that which he gives himself. The mind has been endowed with no more powerful ambition than that of self-improvement. The self-made man carries with him his own capital, a capital unaffected by monetary crises, an investment whose interest is not regulated by success of speculation—a treasure which none can dispute, and of which no one can deprive him. Such a man is Thomas Reynolds, the subject of this sketch. He is the son of William and Gemima (Mead) Reynolds, natives of England, who lived about forty miles northeast of London, where their son Thomas was born. He is purely of English descent, his ancestors having been members of the established church of that country for many generations.

Thomas Reynolds was reared in his native country, prior to the establishment of the Compulsory Education Law. The father being in limited circumstances, the education of the son was completely neglected; all the knowledge, therefore, that he has acquired, has come to him by virtue of his own untiring labor in its pursuit. He was married in England October 1854 to Miss Ann, the daughter of James and Sarah Perry, who were natives of the part of England, from which he himself came. Miss Perry's family, like that of her husband was of old English origin, but this is not the only feature of similarity between them as they were both members of the same church. Of this marriage there was one son, Philip by name, who was born in England. On June 2, in the year 1856, our subject started on a voyage to America. His intention was to come direct to the United States but unfortunately the steamship "Canadia" in which he set out was wrecked. This occurred about forty miles from Quebec after a cruise of eleven days. From the Canadian coast they were taken by a sailship down the St. Lawrence river. As soon as the "Canadia" was taken off the Rock on which she was wrecked, she sank. It was a scene never to be forgotten, but although startling it was not as dangerous as might have been expected, as the passengers and crew were all saved, by what seemed to some, a miraculous interposition of Providence. Having landed in Quebec, Mr. Reynolds traveled by railroad to Loda, Ill. From here he walked across the country over a matter of some twenty miles, when he arrived at Mr. Mann's residence, which was situated near Rossville. He was offered a position by Mr. Mann to work on his farm. He accepted the offer and labored by the month for about seven years. Having in this manner obtained a fine start, he did not rest until he had worked his way so far as to enable him to purchase for himself a fine farm of 200 acres. His estate is now one that attracts the attention of all who pass that way. Its picturesque neatness and the care and taste with which it is designed, cannot but be admired. The shade trees by which his pretty residence is surrounded are unusually fine and large. Before the house is a neatly sodded lawn and the beautiful arrangement of the whole grounds, speaks well for the skill of the supervisor. The water used on the farm is conveniently furnished from the well by a windmill.

Notwithstanding the attention which is paid by

Mr. Reynolds to the cultivation of his property his time is not wholly employed in that one pursuit. He takes great pleasure in the raising of the cattle, hogs and sheep, with which his farm is well stocked. He is also greatly interested in horses, his favorite being the Englishshire.

Our subject and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Wallace Chapel. He has eight children living, their names are as follows: Philip; George W.; Susan, now Mrs. John W. Smock, who lives in Butler Township, this county, and is the parent of five children: Walter, Ida Belle, Martha, Thomas and Minnie M. There were two other children, James and Sarah, who unfortunately died when young.

When our subject arrived at Loda he had only one cent, and was in debt $200 to his brothers Philip and Samuel. This money which they loaned him had paid the expenses of his trip from England. The life of this gentleman has comprised a most interesting array of facts and figures; in reading it we wonder at the tact and perseverance which marked his career. His trials indeed were heavy ones, so burdensome in fact that only a strong determination and a sturdy nature, such as his proved to be, could have overcome them. He is a stanch Republican and a liberal contributor to the interests of schools and churches.

ANTHONY LONG is a young man of more than ordinary enterprise, judgment and capacity, and by those traits has already won an assured success as a farmer and stock-raiser, although he began life a few years ago in comparative poverty. He has a model farm of 200 acres of land of exceptional fertility, carefully tilled and well supplied with comfortable buildings and good machinery, his place being very pleasantly located on section 34 of the pretty township of Pilot.

Our subject is of Pennsylvania origin. His father, Anthony Long, was born in the year 1805, near Harrisburg, the capital of the Keystone State, and lived in that region many years, being employed as a carpenter after attaining man's estate. After his marriage with the mother of our subject, which occurred Dec. 20, 1843, he moved with his family to Ohio, and engaged in farming among the pioneers of Seneca County, and was also profitably employed at his trade. In 1863 he again took up his westward march, and coming to Vermilion County purchased a farm here, and devoted the remainder of his life to agricultural pursuits on this rich soil. He was a man of undoubted worth and stability of character, and during his residence here his conduct merited and received the appreciation of all in the community, who respected him accordingly. He was twice married, and the following are his three children by his first wife: Sarah, the wife of Ephraim Norris, of Seneca County, Ohio; Catherine, the wife of William Miller, a farmer of Wood County, Ohio; Susanna, the wife of Michael Walker, a farmer of Williams County, Ohio. The maiden name of his second wife, the mother of our subject, was Jane Engler, and she was born in Maryland, Oct. 20, 1817, and died on the homestead here Nov. 27, 1879. To them three children came—Samuel, Walter and Anthony. Samuel was a soldier in the late war. He enlisted in the 101st Ohio regiment in 1862, engaged in many hard fought battles, and while in the South contracted consumption, of which he died March 9, 1867, thus giving up his life for his country as much as if he had fallen in battle. Walter was born March 23, 1851, and died July 23, 1869.

Anthony Long, of whom we write, was born in Seneca County, Ohio, Oct. 21, 1855, was an active, wide-awake lad of eight years when he came with his parents to this county, and he was already large enough to be of great use to his father on the farm, and received from him a sound, practical training in the best methods of conducting agriculture, which has been of great profit to him in his after career as an independent farmer. His educational advantages were necessarily limited, but he availed himself of what schooling he could get, and by observation and reading has in great part made up for the early deficiencies of his education. When he first began life for himself he had no capital except a stout heart, strong muscles and a clear

head, and after marriage, not having the wherewithal to buy land, he rented some for a few years. He prudently saved his money till he was enabled to buy eighty acres of partly improved land, and from that time on has been much prospered in his undertakings, so that he is now the owner of 200 acres of as fine farming land as is to be found in this part of Vermilion County, and has it under good improvement, as before noted. He engages in mixed husbandry, raising considerable grain and other farm products and rearing stock of fine grades.

Feb. 22, 1877, Mr. Long took an important step in his life, which has undoubtedly contributed much to his success, as on that date he and Elizabeth Dixon were united in the holy bands of matrimony. She is a native of Kentucky, born Oct. 9, 1856, to John and Elizabeth (Leeper) Dixon, who were of German ancestry. They came to this country during the late war, and settled in Sangamon County, Ill. Two children have blessed the union of our subject and his wife: Alice, born May 9, 1879; Maude, born Sept. 7, 1883.

It is the united testimony of his fellow-townsmen that Mr. Long is in all things a man of conscientious principles and exemplary habits, one who is free hearted, kind and considerate, and always willing to lend a helping hand to others less fortunate than himself. He and his wife are regarded as among the most worthy and consistent members of the Christian Church, and they cheerfully give of their means to its support. Mr. Long takes an intelligent interest in the affairs of his country, and on all political questions sides with the Republican party.

JAMES M. CURRENT. Elsewhere in this volume is presented a view of one of the most inviting homes in Vance Township. It belongs to the subject of this notice, and comprises a well-regulated farm, embellished with a new dwelling and the other necessary buildings, pleasantly located on section 19. The proprietor is one of the representative men of his community, prominent in religion and politics, liberal-minded and public-spirited, and in all respects a first-class citizen. He is a native of this county, and was born Jan. 21, 1842, being the son of one of its oldest and most honored pioneers, William Current, who with his wife, Mary Baston, were natives of Virginia.

The paternal grandparents of our subject were natives of Pennsylvania, and Grandfather Baston was one of the most prominent men in his county, having much to do with its affairs generally. William and Mary Current were married in their native State, and resided there five or six years after that event. Coming to Vermilion County in 1827 they settled five miles northeast of Danville, in Newell Township, and endured the usual experiences of pioneer life. The father secured a tract of land and built up a good homestead, where he and his excellent wife spent the remainder of their days. William Current departed this life in 1851. The mother survived her husband the long period of thirty-three years, remaining a widow, and dying in 1881. He was born in 1803, and his wife in 1807. He served in the Black Hawk War, and the family arrived in Illinois in time to experience the rigors of the winter remarkable for the deep snow. The household circle comprised fourteen children, seven of whom are living.

The subject of this notice was the eighth child of his parents, and received his early education in the old log structure known as the Lamb school house. Although his advantages were necessarily limited, he improved his opportunities, and by a steady course of reading has always kept himself well informed upon current events. He has been a Bible student all his life. He started out for himself in life when a youth of eighteen years, and when ready to establish a home of his own was united in marriage, Oct. 18, 1859, with Miss Mary E. Lynch, daughter of Abraham and Sarah Lynch, who were natives of Virginia.

Our subject and his young bride began their wedded life on the old Current homestead, in this county, where they lived until 1872; then removing to Danville Mr. Current engaged in the butchering and grocery business, operating thus until 1875, when he established himself on his present

farm. This comprises 170 acres of choice land in one body, and the whole is under a good state of cultivation. Mr. Current makes a specialty of stock-raising half or three-fourth blooded Shorthorn cattle, Poland-China swine, and graded Clydesdale horses. In the early days he set out an orchard, which is now in fine bearing condition, and his residence, erected in 1888, is one of the finest in the neighborhood. All that ample means and cultivated tastes can do has been brought about in the erection of this model home.

Of the six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Current two died at the ages of three and one. Their eldest son, William H., married Miss Lavina H., daughter of Thomas Gibson, and they live one mile east of the homestead; they are the parents of one child. Abraham L. married Miss Hester A., daughter of Francis Roderick, of Newell Township; is the father of one child, and lives three miles south of his father. Martin A. and Fay Ray complete the family circle. The former, a promising youth of nineteen years, is a student in the Junior class of Chaddock College, at Quincy, Ill., where he proposes to take the full course.

Mr. Current at one time held the office of Justice of the Peace, but finally resigned. He has also officiated as School Director and Road Overseer, and in politics votes the straight Republican ticket, having been a member of this party since the late war. He believes, however, in voting for principles and not men, and in local matters supports the men whom he considers best qualified to serve the interests of the people. Mr. and Mrs. Current united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1856, and have been prominent and consistent members since that time. Our subject was Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday-school prior to his marriage. In Danville he was Steward in the North Street Church, and has been Class-Leader for the past fourteen years; likewise Superintendent of the Sunday-school thirteen years, still holding the position. His excellent wife is in no wise behind him in all good works, having a class in the Sunday-school, and laboring as she has opportunity in the Master's vineyard.

Abraham Lynch, the father of Mrs. Current, came to Illinois at an early day, and was soon recognized as one of the most worthy citizens of Danville Township. His family included seven children, all of whom are living, and of whom Mrs. Current was the second child. She was born in Newell Township, this county, March 9, 1840, and like her husband pursued her early studies in a log school house under the imperfect system of instruction given at that day.

JOHN VAN DUYN was born in Parke County, Ind., April 28, 1835. His farm which is situated on section 19 in Elwood Township, consists of 150 acres of good land all of which is cultivated in a manner that will bring about the highest results. He is successfully engaged in raising graded Shorthorns and Poland-China hogs.

Cornelius Van Duyn, the father of John, was a native of New Jersey, and came with his father to Indiana, when a boy. The mother was Catherine Blue, a native of Pickaway County, Ohio. She was the mother of eleven children, seven of whom are living: John, Cornelius, Henry J., William, Tilghman A. H., Luther W. and James C. The elder Van Duyns were leading citizens of their time and were regarded as among the best people in the country. They were thrifty and intelligent, and in financial matters, generally succeeded.

John Van Duyn received a limited education at the subscription schools which were in vogue in this country during the pioneer days. The school-house, where he learned to read and write was built of logs and contained a fire-place in one end, slabs for seats and oiled paper for window panes. Let the youth of to-day contemplate the difficulties which surrounded their fathers and grandfathers in their effort to get an education, and be thankful for the splendid school privileges they now enjoy and strive the harder to improve them. Mr. Van Duyn came to Vermillion County, Ind., with his parents in 1853, whence he removed to this county three years later. He was married March 26, 1867, to Dorothy, daughter of Archibald Edmonston, a native of Buncombe County, N. C. She was born in Vermilion

County, Ind., where her parents located in 1831. Her father, an old pioneer of Indiana, was a soldier of the war of 1812. Her mother Melissa Anderson, was a native of Mercer County, Ky. The latter removed with her parents to Dubois County, Ind., at the age of eleven years, and in 1831, she located with her husband in Vermillion County, the same State. She was the mother of eight children, five of whom are living: Thomas A., Mrs. Van Duyn, William, Leroy T. and Melissa. Mother Edmonston still lives in Indiana, six miles southwest of Newport and is eighty-four years old. She is possessed of extra good health for a lady of her years.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Duyn have had five children and but one is living, Melissa, who is the wife of Professor Mitchell, principal of the Ridge Farm school. She is also teaching there with her husband. She began work in her profession when but fifteen years old, and is a graduate of the State Normal School of Terre Haute. Both have State certificates of Illinois. They are the parents of one child—Verne V.

By his own efforts Mr. Van Duyn has prospered financially, and is now living in ease and comfort. He is generous and hospitable and is never happier than when he is smoothing the road of some unfortunate whose footsteps are handicapped in the race of life.

HGARLAUGH. The extensive tract of land familiarly known as the Garlaugh farm is operated in two divisions by the subject of this notice and his brother, Taylor Garlaugh, and comprises some of the finest land lying out of doors. It was purchased by the father in 1873 at the time of the famous Sidell land sale, which is noted elsewhere in this work.

Mr. Garlaugh, our subject, has effected many valuable improvements on this property, erecting a commodious two-story frame dwelling, a good barn and cattle sheds, has good fences and the latest improved machinery for the prosecution of his calling. A windmill forms one of the appurtenances and the land is amply watered and very fertile. In riding past the farm the traveler is at once impressed with the idea that its manager is not only a man of enterprise and energy, but is one bound to succeed. Mr. Garlaugh employs two men and four two-horse teams in carrying on the farm and feeds annually 100 head each of cattle and swine. He makes a specialty of attending to his own concerns and does not aspire to political honors, although thoroughly in sympathy with the principles of the Republican party and the watch-cry "America for Americans."

In referring to the parental history of our subject we find that his father, Jacob Garlaugh, was born in Greene County, Ohio, and remains a resident of that State, living near the city of Dayton. The mother, formerly Miss Elizabeth Miller, was born in Virginia and emigrated to Ohio with her parents when a young girl. The first representatives of the Garlaugh family in America came across the water from Germany and settled in Maryland whence Grandfather Garlaugh removed to Greene County, Ohio, in 1807. The homestead which he built up from the wilderness has never passed out of the hands of the family and upon it the father of our subject is still living with his estimable wife at the ages of seventy-nine and sixty-nine years respectively.

Thirteen children were born to the parents of our subject—seven sons and six daughters—of whom he was the seventh. He first opened his eyes to the light Feb. 17, 1853. He attended the common schools and was reared to farm pursuits, remaining a member of the parental household until coming to Illinois in 1879 when a man of twenty-six years. He was married in this county in 1883 to Miss Nellie, daughter of Calvin and Elizabeth (Collison) Martin now of State Line. Mrs. Garlaugh was born at Bixby, Ill., and completed her studies in the Normal School at Danville. Subsequently she followed the profession of a teacher until her marriage. She became the mother of two children—Mamie E. and Ida M. and died Dec. 26, 1887. The young wife and mother passed away, deeply mourned by her husband and a large circle of friends. She possessed many estimable qualities and in her death our subject received the sympathy of all who had known them during the brief years

of their happy married life. Mr. Garlaugh is looked upon as one of the rising young men of his community—one eminently worthy of a record in a work designed to perpetuate the names and deeds of the leading men of Vermilion County.

CHARLES W. FORBES, the leading and pioneer agricultural implement dealer of Sidell, carries an extensive stock of merchandise pertaining to his line of trade, and from his long residence in this locality and his substantial traits of character, is regarded as one of its leading men. A native of Medina County, Ohio, he was born March 17, 1853, and in consequence is on the sunny side of forty and in the prime of a vigorous and healthful manhood. His career has been marked by success, and he possesses those mental qualities which have not only been of great service in the management of his business affairs, but has established him in an enviable position among his fellowmen. He takes a warm interest in the growth of the village and as a liberal-minded and public-spirited citizen, contributes as he is able toward its advancement.

Mr. Forbes is the offspring of a good family, being the son of Alex and Cornelia Ann (Randall) Forbes who are still living and in good health, the father being eighty-five years old and the mother seventy-six. Charles W. was the eighth in the family of ten children, five of whom are living, the other four being Medwin, George, Hiram and Marietta. Alex Forbes was one of the early settlers of Medina County, Ohio; where he operated prominently as a builder and contractor until he retired from active labor, and still resides in Ohio.

Our subject pursued his first studies in the common schools, and later at a select school at Litchfield, Ohio. When a youth of eighteen years he became interested in a creamery at Wellington, with which he was connected until coming, in 1881, to Shelby County this State. He built a creamery in the latter place which he operated two years and then removed to Rantoul, where he prosecuted the same business successfully for a time, then selling out, established himself in Casey, Clark County, this State, where he built another creamery, but only sojourned six months, coming to Sidell in the fall of 1885. In his business here he has been successful from the start, and his progress may be indicated by the fact that his sales in 1885 amounted to $10,000, and those of 1888 to $47,000. He has erected a commodious store with ware-rooms, and now also conducts a thriving trade in furniture as well as carriages and wagons. He has put up a tasteful and substantial residence of modern architecture at the corner of Gray and English streets, which with its surroundings forms a very pleasant and attractive home.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Myra Fisher was celebrated at the home of the bride in Clarksfield, Huron Co., Ohio, Dec. 10, 1879. Mrs. Forbes was born at Rochester, Lorain, Co., that State, February, 1857, and is the daughter of Robert and Olive M. (Cunningham) Fisher, the former a native of the province of Ontario, Canada, and the latter of Clarksfield, Ohio. Mr. Fisher left the Dominion when a young man and afterward followed the trade of a harness-maker until his death, which took place in 1876 when he was fifty years old. The parents were married in Clarksfield, Ohio. The mother is living and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Forbes; she is now fifty-three years old. Of her five children, Myra, Mrs. Forbes, was the eldest born. The next one, a son, Foster, died in infancy; Hiram Way, Frank S. and Emma D.

Mr. Forbes, politically, is a stanch Republican and is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Peace Dale Lodge, No. 225. He is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to Sidell Camp, No. 405. The maternal grandmother of Mrs. Fisher was married the first times to Corydon Sheldon, and by him became the mother of one child, Jairus C., who was a representative from the Fifteenth District of Illinois to the Forty-ninth Congress and served two terms. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Sheldon was married to Hiram Way Cunningham, and to them were born nine children, among whom was the mother of Mrs. Forbes and Joseph Oscar Cunningham, who is one of the leading lawyers and prominent

citizens of Urbana, Ill., and was for several years Probate Judge. The girlhood of Mrs. Forbes was spent in Clarksfield, Ohio, and she attended the High School at Norwalk. Later, at the age of seventeen, she entered Baldwin University, taking the classical and musical courses, and continued a student there for some time. Afterward she engaged in teaching in Huron County, Ohio, following this profession for four years prior to her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Forbes are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Sidell in which Mr. Forbes is one of the Board of Trustees and is on the Building Committee. This church has one of the finest edifices in Vermilion County, outside of Danville. Mrs. Forbes was the first President of the Ladies' Aid Society, which was established for the purpose of raising means to build a new church.

DEWITT C. BENNETT, familiarly known throughout Carroll Township as "Clint Bennett," is one of the most popular young men of his community and a farmer by occupation, operating a fine body of land in the southwestern part of the township. He has worked his way up from an humble position in life, signalizing himself by his industry and integrity of character, and, aside from being on the highway to success financially, has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. The fact that he was from the age of eighteen years until twenty-eight — a period of ten years — the "right hand man" of the cattle king, John Sidell, is sufficient indication of his true character and furnishes as good a recommendation as he could possibly wish for. There was also another party in the employ of the same family, namely, a most estimable young lady, who became the wife of our subject and whose record is fully equal to that of her husband in point of sterling worth of character and cultivated tastes. As the wife of our subject, she has been in all respects his true companion and helpmate, and they are justly proud of their blooming family of children, and their attractive home, which, without making any pretensions to elegance, is the place where affection abides and to which they frequently welcome the many friends and acquaintances who have watched their career with kindly interest.

The subject of this notice is a native of this county, and was born in Vance Township, June 4, 1849. He was reared in Vance and Catlin townships, acquiring his education in the common school, and left home, as we have already indicated, at the age of eighteen years. While in the employ of Mr. Sidell, he drove thousands of cattle to the East, frequently riding night and day, without sleep or rest. His father, Philander Bennett, was a native of New York State, and married Miss Sarah Ann Wolf, who was born in Tennessee. In the biography of Henry J. Bennett, found on another page in this volume, will be noted the parental history. Philander Bennett and his excellent wife are still living, making their home in Palermo, Edgar County, where the father and his younger sons are operating a rented farm. Mr. Bennett is now about seventy-four years old and his wife ten years his junior. They are the parents of nine children, the eldest of whom, Ann E., is the wife of W. M. Jamison, of Catlin, and the mother of six children: Charles, Kate, Mary, George, Willie and Bertie. Henry J. was the second born; DeWitt Clinton, our subject, was the third child; George Franklin married Miss Rachel Trimble, and is a farmer of Dundee County, Neb., and they have four children, Clinton, Minnie, Frank and a babe unnamed. Mary E. is the wife of Jonah Turner, a farmer of Edgar County; they have no children. William K. died in boyhood; Jacob remains at home with his father; Ida B. married Esau Marsh, resides in Missouri, and is the mother of two children; Allie married Wilson Glaze, a resident of Chrisman, Edgar County, and they have two children.

Mr. Bennett was married in 1877 to Mrs. Nancy Jane Spellman, daughter of Jerry and Mary I. Fuller. Her father was born in Illinois and her mother in Campbell County, Ky. The parents were married in the latter State and were of Irish descent. They settled first in Cincinnati, Ohio, where Mr. Fuller engaged in teaming, and later removed on to a farm in Kentucky, where

his death took place. The mother was subsequently married to John Clark, a sketch of whom apppears elsewhere in this work, and they are living at Sidell. Of the first marriage there were born seven children, viz: Reuben, John and Mary (who died young), America, Sarah, Louisa and Nancy Jane. Mrs. Bennett was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, but was reared in Kentucky, and when nineteen years of age became the wife of Thomas B. Spellman. Of this union there was born one child.

For six years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bennett continued with Mr. Sidell and afterward began farming on rented land. They are now the parents of six children, namely: Sarah I., Charles Clinton, Jacob C., Bessie W. and Luella. Mr. Bennett is a prominent member of the Modern Woodmen at Sidell, and has filled most of the offices of the order. Politically he votes the straight Democratic ticket and has been School Director in his district.

ADAM STADLER. The armies of the North—so statistics exhibit—were composed of one-third foreigners, or their direct descendants. These, or their parents, had come from countries where tyranny held them in as firm a grasp as the negroes were held in America, and their condition was but little above that of the slave of South Carolina. They longed for that perfect political freedom that characterizes this country, and in consequence fought for a principle that was dear to them, and the most of these people, by the peculiar laws of their native land, were obliged to serve in the army. The person whose name heads this sketch is one of those who had seen service in his native country.

His father was Christopher Stadler, a farmer of Baden and a native of that country, while his mother, Regina (Horsch) was also a native of the same province. This couple were married in Baden and came to America in 1854, locating in Henry County, Ind., with their son Adam, who had come to America before them. The father died in 1856 aged sixty-eight, and the mother is still living in Ohio with one of her daughters. They had five children, three boys and two girls, four of whom are now living in America. The oldest boy died in Germany. Adam, of whom we write, is the second child of the family, and was born Dec. 28, 1821, in Baden. There he went to school until he was fourteen years old, receiving a very fine education in the higher mathematics and engineering. He finished his schooling in the military academy of Carlsruhe, the capital of Baden, graduating from that institution and receiving his diploma in 1844. Previous to this, he served his time as an apprentice at the cooper's trade and continued at that for six years, or until he was twenty years of age.

In 1841 Mr. Stadler was drafted into the army. He served six months as a private and was promoted to the ranks of Corporal and Sergeant, serving in these positions for one and two years respectively. In 1848 the rebellion broke out in Baden against King Leopold, at which time Mr. Stadler was serving as Quartermaster Sergeant. The army in which he was doing duty was directed against the rebels, but in 1849 the soldiers became disaffected and rebelled against the King. Mr. Stadler was then elected as Captain of the same battery of artillery in which he had served previously as a loyal soldier.

His company fought in every battle in 1849 in the rebel army. At that time the commander of the rebellious soldiers was Gen. Miroflefski, who turned out to be a traitor to the cause. He was succeeded by Gen. Franz Sigel, who afterward distinguished himself in the Union army during the late Rebellion. Gen. Sigel was in command of about 25,000 men and in opposition to this small army, Prussia sent 150,000 troops and the States of Wurtemburg, Bavaria and Hesse-Darmstadt furnished as many more. This immense army of troops succeeded in killing many of the rebels, but failed to crush them. Sigel's army was driven into Switzerland and the war closed. The remnant of this little army two months after was dispersed. The private soldiers were allowed to go where they pleased, but the officers were condemned to be shot whenever found on their native soil. The natural place for them to seek refuge was in America, and here they came, Mr. Stadler being one of

them. He came in the same vessel that brought Lawrence Brentano, now of Chicago and they arrived at New York in Nov. 1849.

Mr. Stadler was married May 28, 1846 to Sophia Yazell, daughter of John and Caroline (Sweitzer) Yazell. Mrs. Stadler was the youngest of the family and was born Feb. 2, 1829. She received a fine education, and married Mr. Stadler while he was a Sergeant in the army of the King. While the war was in progress—in which her husband took so active a part—she remained at Carlsruhe, and when the army was driven into Switzerland, she joined her husband there and sailed with him to America. They went to Cincinnati, where he was employed at his trade, and also in a brewery, for one year. At this time both Mr. and Mrs. Stadler were seized with typhoid fever, which was followed by fever and ague, their illness lasting in all, fourteen months. After recovering their health they removed to Indiana, where Mr. Stadler started a cooper's shop and remained in that business for fourteen years. He then rented a farm, and began the life of a farmer.

In 1861, when the first call for troops was made by President Lincoln, Mr. Stadler enlisted in the 12th battery of Indiana Volunteers, commanded by Capt. Stallings. He went out with the battery as First Lieutenant, proceeding from Indianapolis to St. Louis and thence to Fort Donelson. After the fall of that fort, the battery was ordered to Nashville, and from there to Pittsburg Landing, and after the battle of Shiloh, the company was changed to heavy artillery, and again returned to Nashville. In the fall of 1862 Mr. Stadler resigned his commission, because of rheumatism. He returned home and again took up his work on the farm in Indiana. He had escaped unhurt in the many battles in which he was engaged both in Germany and America, and while in the service in the old country, he had three horses killed while riding them.

In October, 1867 Mr. Stadler removed to Illinois and bought his present home where he has lived since. He has 125 acres of good land, and as a farmer he has been successful. Mr. and Mrs. Stadler have had six children, three sons and three daughters, five of whom are living: George C., a banker, married Ada Newton; they are living in Monticello, where he is Clerk of the Court, and have two children; Adam A., married Anna Bell, they are residing at Bement and are the parents of one child; Rena is the wife of Dr. Clark Smith of Cornelius, Ore.; Jacob F., married Susan Simpson, and they are living on a part of her father's farm, and have one child; Caroline lives at home with her parents, and is an accomplished young lady, being noticeably proficient in painting. She has executed many fine specimens, which adorn her father's parlor.

Mr. Stadler is a strong free-trade Democrat and while he is not an office-seeker he takes great interest in politics. He has held the office of Road Overseer, filling the position with his usual energy. Before leaving Baden Mr. and Mrs. Stadler were members of the Evangelical Protestant Church, but since coming to America they have been united with no religious organization but attend church regularly. They are held in high esteem by all their acquaintances as possessing all the attributes that cluster around good neighbors, and law-abiding citizens.

JOHN POLLARD. This branch of the Pollard family is noted chiefly for its mechanical genius—the ancestors of our subject being peculiarly gifted in this manner. William Pollard, the father of our subject, learned mechanical engineering in his native England when quite a young man, and the paternal grandfather, John Pollard, was a wheelwright, millwright and wood-worker of great skill.

To William and Mary Ann (Bartel) Pollard, natives of Yorkshire, England, there were born five children in their native country: Paul lives in Carroll Township; John, our subject was the second child; Sarah J. is the wife of S. P. Donovan, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume; Peter died in infancy; Martha is the wife of Charles Hull, also represented elsewhere in this work. The father crossed the Atlantic seven times—four times before bringing his family here,

in 1864—when he located in Carroll Township, this county. He built the first steam sawmill south of Danville, and, besides being a first class mechanic, was an excellent business man, and soon found himself on the high road to prosperity. Of a most generous and easy disposition, it was often remarked that he "was too good for his own good." He could never say "no" when solicited by a friend for a favor, consequently he appended his name to various notes for friends, which resulted in the usual way, namely, the loss of a large amount of his property. He lived, however, to rally from this disaster, and at the time of his death, July 3, 1886, left his family in comfortable circumstances; he was then aged sixty-nine years. The mother is still living, making her home in Indianola, and is of the same age as her husband was at his decease.

The subject of this sketch, like his parents, was a native of Yorkshire, England, and born May 3, 1847. He pursued his early studies under careful instruction in a private school, which was held under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church. While still a boy, he began working in a factory as a spinner, and at the early age of seventeen was given the position of overseer in the spinning department of Scott's Woolen Mills, in England. After a time, however, he conceived the idea of coming to America, so gave up his position and sailed across the Atlantic with his brother, the rest of the family coming later.

The labors of young Pollard were only interrupted for a comparatively brief time, and, after reaching Illinois, he entered the employ of his father in a sawmill, and was thus occupied until thirty six years of age. Then, as proprietor, he assumed the entire charge. Hundreds of thousands of feet of lumber have passed through his hands, and he has been uniformly successful in this department of industry. He purchases the logs in the rough, and from them manufactures all kinds of lumber for building and other purposes, dealing mostly in the finer grades—oak, walnut, and woods of that description. He has built up a regular patronage, doing an extensive custom business.

Mr. Pollard and his family occupy a very pleasannt and comfortable home. His farm comprises choice land, with a neat and substantial frame dwelling and the other buildings necessary for their convenience and comfort. He was married, Aug. 29, 1886, to Mrs. Fanny (Thresher) Hunt, daughter of Everett Thresher and widow of Ely Hunt. Mrs. Pollard was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Dec. 6, 1855. The maiden name of her mother was Elizabeth Collins, and both parents were born in Pickaway County, Ohio. Mr. Thresher was a farmer by occupation, and when a boy of eight years came with his parents to Illinois, settling in Coles County. Later they removed to Douglas County, where the parents still live, and are comfortably sitnated upon a good farm of their own. Mr. Thresher is sixty-seven years of age, and his good wife fifty-nine. Of the twelve children born to them ten lived to mature years, viz: Sarah, Hugh, Fanny, Mary, John, Mahala, Minerva, Celia, Henry and George.

Miss Fanny Thresher was first married in Douglas County, this State, to Ely Hunt, a farmer by occupation, and they became the parents of one child—Lewis, who was born in 1877. Mrs. Hunt in 1882 occupied the position of a clerk in Danville, where she met our subject, and in due time they were married. Both our subject and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Indianola, and Mr. Pollard, politically, gives his unqualified support to the Democratic party.

A view of Mr. Pollard's place is shown elsewhere in this work.

ELISHA C. B. FITHIAN. The Fithian family has been widely known in Central Illinois for many years. We find the subject of this notice comfortably located on section 19, in Oakwood Township, where he has followed agriculture since 1854. He is the youngest of three sons, the offspring of Dr. William and Orlethea T. (Berry) Fithian, who were natives of Ohio, where they were reared, educated and married, and came to Illinois as early as 1830. [See sketch on another page.] They settled at Danville, where

the father followed his profession continuously until about 1879. The manner in which he was prospered is indicated from the fact that he is now the owner of 2,700 acres of land in Oakwood and Vance townships, 400 acres being in timber and the balance under a good state of cultivation. It is mostly leased to other parties, and our subject is superintendent of the whole. The parental family comprised three children, only two of whom are living, the eldest son, George B., having died in 1874. The son besides our subject is William Henry, a resident of Fithian, Ill.

The subject of this notice was the youngest of his parents' three sons, and was born Nov. 8, 1837, in Danville, this county. He acquired a practical education in the public schools, and at the age of seventeen years began farming for himself on the land which he now occupies. He met with fair success, and on the 10th of February, 1865, established domestic ties of his own by his marriage with Miss Annie M. Hays. Mrs. Fithian was the third child in the family of John Hays, who came to Illinois from Ohio, in 1862, and settled near Homer, Champaign County, where he occupied himself in farming. His family consisted of twelve children, eight of whom are living. Mrs. Fithian was born March 15, 1840, in Athens Co., Ohio.

Since his marriage Mr. Fithian has continued the superintendence of his father's farm. The Doctor is now past his ninetieth year, and is quite feeble in health. He continues a resident of Danville. He has been a very prominent man in his community—active, energetic and public-spirited—and the town of Fithian, which was laid out by the Indiana, Bloomington & Western Railroad Company, was named in his honor. His first wife died in early womanhood, in 1837, and he was subsequently married to Mrs. Black, the widowed mother of Gen. John C. Black, and she died in 1886. John Hays, the father of Mrs. Fithian, died on the 7th of August, 1886. Her mother is still living, making her home in Muncie, Ill., and is now seventy-one years old.

Mr. Fithian is quite conservative in politics, and has always been a member of the Republican party, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He was personally acquainted with him, having often met him at his father's house, the martyred President regarding Dr. Fithian as one of his warm, personal friends, and frequently visiting him. Mr. Fithian has been a School Director for many years, and socially belongs to Fairmount Lodge, No. 590, A. F. & A. M., with which he has been connected for about sixteen years. The five children of our subject and his estimable wife were named, respectively: Paul H., Lalla R., Elisha C. B., John C. B. and David W.

ADAM EATON. There is nothing in life more beautiful and attractive than a serene and quiet old age, the result of a life well spent, with a conscience void of offense, and a consciousness of having lived uprightly and in a manner deserving of the esteem and confidence of mankind. These thoughts involuntarily arise in noting the career of the subject of this sketch, who is in fair circumstances, and occupies a comfortable homestead on section 1, in Sidell Township.

Mr. Eaton is a man of large experience, a native of Barren County, Ky., and born near Glasgow, March 1, 1822. His early studies were pursued in the subscription schools of his native township, and he accompanied his father's family in their various removals through Kentucky to Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama. In the meantime, upon reaching man's estate he employed himself in connection with the "tobacco and the cotton and the corn," and was a witness of all the phases of life in the South during that period and prior to the outbreak of the Rebellion. In Tennessee he found his wife, being married in 1841 to Miss Frances Giner, a native of that State.

Mr. and Mrs. Eaton, after their marriage, removed to Kentucky, and thence, in 1845, to Indiana, where they lived seven years, and where their eldest child was born. In 1852 they came to this county and settled five miles east of Danville, where our subject rented a farm of Dr. Porter, upon which he remained ten years. Then, in 1879, with the results of his labors, he purchased eighty

acres of land, from which he constructed his present homestead. He has effected good improvements and surrounded himself and his family with all the comforts of life. Living at peace among his neighbors and giving his chief attention to the interests immediately connected with his home, he has had ample time to reflect upon the vicissitudes of life and draw his own conclusions therefrom. The four living children of Mr. and Mrs Eaton are recorded as follows: David married Miss Rachel Raffet, and lived in Sidell; they have seven children living. Malen married Miss Ida Soyer, lives in this township, and is the father of one child—Leslie; Mary is the wife of Simon Hill, of Sidell, and they have two children—Elmer and Walter; Preston remains at home with his parents. Mr. Eaton votes the straight Democratic ticket, and both he and his wife are members of the New Light Church.

The parents of our subject were David and Elizabeth (Thomas) Eaton, the father a native of Tennessee. They were married in Kentucky, and lived there for a time on a farm. About 1845 they removed to Indiana, settling in Harrison County, and later came to this county, where the father died at the age of eighty-six years. The mother was eighty years old at the time of her decease. Their family consisted of eleven children—four sons and seven daughters—of whom Adam, our subject, was the second born.

SAMUEL W. BAUM is one of the many well-to-do men of Carroll Township, and a popular stockman of Vermilion County. For several years he has been engaged in breeding Shorthorn cattle, and at this writing has on hand a herd of his favorite breed of cattle of good pedigrees. The animal standing at the head of this fine herd of cattle is the celebrated "Commodore Barney," a well-known prize winner, and was owned by the late Harvey Sodowsky, which is a guarantee of the excellence of this beautiful animal.

Mr. Baum is the son of Samuel Baum, who was a very popular gentleman, and one of the old settlers of Carroll Township. His mother was Sarah Weaver, a daughter of Michael Weaver, who lived to be one hundred years old. The elder Baum and Weaver came together to this county in wagons drawn by oxen. The Baums built up the oldest city in the county—Indianola—and were instrumental in directing the outside world to the fertility and resources of Vermilion County as a desirable location. The Baums were also distinguished pioneers of Bucks County, Pa., and of Clermont County, Ohio, while that country was under territorial rule. The grandfather, Charles Baum, was a gunsmith by trade. He volunteered in the War of 1812, but was thought to be too valuable a man to enter the ranks, so he was employed in making and repairing firearms. He made a gun for his own use in the army, but gave it to another soldier. He was very religiously inclined, and respected by all who knew him. Samuel Baum was married twice, and by the first union had eleven children: Oliver P., Mary, Elizabeth, Susan A., Catherine, Francis, Emiline, Samuel W., William and Angeline.

Samuel W. was born Feb. 15, 1843, and was reared to agriculture in this county. He is largely engaged in the stock business, and is an extensive shipper. He owns several farms, the homestead containing 600 acres. All his land has been improved by himself, as when he bought it, it was in a wild condition. His farms are all well fenced, conveniently arranged, and well supplied with water; the barns are commodious, and the pastures are of the very best. His dwelling is a comfortable one, and in it can be found a genial hostess, whose hospitality is proverbial. The stock on this farm is of the very finest. Any one of the animals would take a prominent place at a fair or a fat stock show. It is safe to make the assertion that there are no better cattle in the State of Illinois than those owned by Mr. Baum.

Mr. Baum was married to Miss Della F. Stewart, a daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Cochrane) Stewart, the former being a native of Ohio, while the latter was a daughter of Gen. Cochrane, a hero of the War of 1812, and who represented his people in the Legislature. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart came to Georgetown from Woodford County, Ill., having

settled there first upon coming to this State. They floated down the Ohio and came up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, until they reached their destination. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart are both living, and in this world's goods are well-to-do. They are the parents of seven children, all girls: Tamer E. and Mary M. (deceased), twins; Lovina, Sarah A. (deceased), Josephine, Frances, Delphine and Dolly J. Mrs. Baum was born in Georgetown, where she attended the public schools, and at the age of six-then entered the High School at Danville. She is an accomplished lady and a faithful wife. Mr. and Mrs. Baum have no children.

Mr. Baum is a strong Republican, a protectionist, and a friend of progress and prosperity. He believes that his party's platforms embody political wisdom, and that its candidates, as a rule, are good, and, therefore, he votes the Republican ticket, though he never seeks office. Mr. Baum's reputation among those who know him best is irreproachable.

HENRY B. CURRENT has a pleasant home in Newell Township, and is a gentleman of good family and social prominence in the community in which he lives. His parents, William and Mary (Bastian) Current, natives of Monongalia County, W. Va., emigrated to Illinois in 1827, and located in Newell Township about one-half mile from the place which is at present owned by the subject of this sketch. Their lot was the common one of all the pioneers, but as the reward of industry and frugality they were enabled to spend their latter years in comfort and ease, and now sleep side by side in the silent city of the dead, known locally as the Lynch Cemetery, where their final resting place is marked by a handsome monument which informs the passerby that the mother entered into rest in the year 1855, and the father in the following year, the date of his departure being 1856.

When Mr. and Mrs. William Current arrived in Newell Township they purchased forty acres of land on which they erected such buildings as they could afford, which it must be confessed were built with an eye to convenience and economy, rather than to minister to the æsthetic tastes of the beholder. But in those primitive log cabins were to be found people of intelligence and frequently people of liberal education, who, although often obliged to deny themselves many conveniences and limit themselves to the barest necessaries of life were yet not inhospitable but welcomed the stranger and traveler with warm hearts, and provided for his needs to the best of their ability.

Under such conditions and amid such people the youth of our subject was passed. His parents reared a family of fourteen children, of which he was the eldest, and by the blessing of the God they served they were enabled to add to their original purchase some 312 acres, so that at the time of their decease the estate which was left to their heirs embraced 352 acres, finely improved and yielding a good income.

Henry B. Current was born on the 4th of July, 1824, hence was a mere child when his parents became residents of Illinois. His early life was spent under the parental roof, where he received the usual schooling of the times and pursued the ordinary round of duties pertaining to a boy's life on a farm. The monotony of life in that neighborhood was broken on Feb. 10, 1842, by a wedding, the principal actors being our subject and Miss Martha Shroff, the ceremony taking place at the home of the brides's parents. Mrs. Current's parents were natives of Ohio, and removed to Illinois, in which State they made their home until released from earth's trials and cares.

Mrs. Current was an estimable woman and became the mother of nine children, as follows: William, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work; Mary is the wife of David Cuningham; Margaret; Sarah, the wife of C. Campbell; Vallie, the wife of M. Elder; Amanda (deceased) was the wife of R. Elder; John died when only two years and six months old; David died when two years old, and Rebecca died when an infant of three weeks. Mrs. Current joined her departed children in the beautiful land of rest, leaving to the remaining members of her family the bright example of a goodly life. Our subject was again united in

marriage, taking for his life partner Miss Sarah Bewer, by whom he had one child, Martha, now Mrs. Perry Adams. Following the death of his second wife our subject was for the third time united in the bonds of matrimony, with Miss Emma Watts Aug. 17, 1881. This amiable lady is a daughter of David and Frances Watts, natives of England, who emigrated to America while young and took up land in Vermilion County, making a comfortable home in Newell Township, where Miss Emma was born and grew into sweet and gracious womanhood, remaining in her childhood's home until called to her present sphere of activity and usefulness, where she is the presiding genius of a chastened yet cheerful family.

The farm belonging to Mr. Current comprises 320 acres of land under excellent cultivation, and is well supplied with all necessary outbuildings and a handsome, commodious residence, which is the abode of peace, plenty and content. Our subject is a popular man in his district and has held the office of Road Commissioner; the right of a freeman is exercised by him in favor of the Democratic party. The Masonic order claims him as a brother. Mr. and Mrs. Current are consistent members and regular attendants on the service of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

R. BRUCE SMITH. There are few men more widely and favorably known to the citizens of Danville and vicinity than the subject of this notice. Here have centered his life-long interests, and in this city he was born, Dec. 26, 1847, when the home of his parents was at the corner of what is now Main and Franklin streets, in one of the first brick buildings, owned by his father, Isaac P. Smith, who was one of the earliest pioneers of the county.

Our subject acquired his education in the schools of his native town and entered upon his active business career at the early age of fifteen years, when he commenced selling the Lafayette *Courier*, which came in on the 10 o'clock P. M. train, and which he would deliver afterward. During the day he was employed at a news-stand to deliver papers to regular subscribers. He next engaged as clerk in a hardware store, and subsequently was in the employ of T. H. Myers, the first Mayor of Danville, and Agent of the United States Express Co. He also operated a grocery and purchased furs and hides. Young Smith was in the employ of Mr. Myers about five years, and in the meantime officiated as clerk for the Wabash Railroad, and for Daniel Gurley, who dealt in hides and furs.

After leaving Mr. Myers for the last time our subject entered the boot and shoe store of D. B. Haggard, where he remained one year. We next find him in the employ of the boot and shoe merchant, Mr. McClennathen. He next assumed the management of the postoffice and the book-store of W. T. Cunningham, on the southwest corner of the public square, and under the postmastership of of Mr. McKibben. Later the office was moved to Vermilion street. After the appointment of Samuel Fairchild as Postmaster, Mr. Smith was appointed Deputy Postmaster, and remained connected with the office some years.

Upon withdrawing from the postoffice Mr. Smith established in the grocery business at the corner of Main and Franklin streets, but sold out a year later and became bookkeeper for Smith & Piel, butchers. During 1873–'74 he was, on account of ill-health, unable to engage in any arduous labor, and during the latter year repaired to Chicago and underwent a surgical operation which resulted in the entire recovery of his health. Soon afterward he was solicited to become the candidate for City Treasurer. He was elected by a majority of 418, served his term, and in 1875 was re-elected, beating his two opponents by 187 votes. Since a youth of eighteen years he has been occupying his leisure time in the reading of law. In 1878 he entered the office of the Danville *Commercial*, a few weeks after it was established, and the way in which he wrote up the county fair so pleased the proprietors of the paper and the people generally that he was given the post of City Editor, which he held one year. Next he became associated with the Danville *News*, and in due time resigned this position to take one with Mayor Lawrence.

In the Spring of 1881 Mr. Smith was one of six

candidates for Justice of the Peace, and secured 1302 out of 1831 votes. This office he held four years, and in the meantime continued his law studies. He passed a written examination and was admitted to the bar in Springfield, and as a Justice of the Peace acquitted himself so satisfactorily that he was re-elected, receiving 1831 out of 2400 votes, beating the closest competitor of seven candidates by 299 votes. In the spring of 1889 he was elected on the Republican ticket by 125 majority, the first time in which party politics had any thing to do with the election of this officer. He pursued his law studies first under Col. Jesse Harper eighteen months, and then with W. R. Lawrence six months. After being admitted to the bar he opened an office on East Main street and practiced in all the courts, besides discharging the duties of his office as Justice of the Peace. He also operates as a real-estate dealer and loan agent, and has just put out a Directory for the city of Danville. It will thus be seen that he must possess great energy and has few idle hours. So cially he belongs to the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., and Modern Woodmen of America. In religious views he coincides with the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church. He at one time officiated as Editor-in-chief of the Danville *Argus*, and as Special Correspondent of the Chicago *Times*, and *Tribune*.

Isaac P. Smith, the father of our subject, was born near Snow Hill, in Worcester County, Md., in 1792. His boyhood days were spent upon a farm and his education was acquired in the common school. In his youth he learned the trade of a carpenter, also that of a baker, and later became a contractor and builder. Of his first marriage there there were born eleven children, all of whom lived to mature years. Finally he left Maryland and took up his abode in Pickaway County, Ohio, where he entered a tract of land, which he improved, and also followed his trade. Later he moved to Northern Indiana, whence he came to this county in the summer of 1832. All these journeyings had been made overland with teams, the teams being utilized in hauling the goods, while the family came most of the way on foot. After arriving in this county Mr. Smith entered a tract of land in what is now Danville Township, and situated six or seven miles south of the present city. He set out a great many trees, especially sugar maples, from which he made a large amount of maple sugar, and lost considerable by the Indians.

ABRAM MANN. Picture to the mind's eye an imposing and beautifully appointed residence situated on a gentle rise of ground in the midst of shade trees and shrubbery, with tasteful walks and driveway, with the various needed carriage barns and outbuildings in the rear, a choice apple orchard of bearing trees in good condition and trees of the smaller fruits, yielding abundantly in their season, and we have the surroundings of the subject of this sketch.

The Mann family originated in England probably several hundred years ago, and this branch of it was represented in the United States about 1834, by Abram Mann, Sr.

The paternal grandparents of our subject were people in good standing in their community and members of the Church of England. Their son, Abram, likewise a native of Bedfordshire, was married there to Miss Mary A. Smith and they became the parents of four children who were named respectively, Mary A., Catherine, Abram, our subject, and John. In 1835 the whole family emigrated to the United States and coming to Illinois settled at Danville. Our subject although a mere boy remembers well the time when there were but few houses between this point and the then unimportant little town of Chicago. There were but few families then in Ross Township. In 1837 the family removed to this latter township where the parents spent their last days. The father and mother were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Abram Mann, Jr., the subject of this sketch, was born in February, 1829, in Bedfordshire, England. He chose for his life occupation farming pursuits, and remained a member of the parental household until reaching man's estate. He was married to Miss Margaret Dale, daughter of John J. Dale, who was born in Maryland and removed to Clark

County, Ohio, when quite young. Upon reaching man's estate he was married to Miss Elizabeth Davison, by whom he became the father of eight children in Ohio and one after their removal to Indiana. In 1860 they came to this county, settling in Ross Township where the father died in 1878. Mrs. Dale and seven of her children are still living. One son, Daniel D., served in the Union Army during the late Civil War and met his death on the battlefield of Murfreesboro, Tenn. The father of our subject at his death left a fine estate including 5,000 acres of land. This splendid tract of land is remarkably rich and fertile and it has most properly been embellished with one of the finest farm residences in the county. The main building covers an area of 50 x 57 feet with an "L" 40 x 20 feet, is two stories in height and built of brick.

In addition to carrying on general farming Mr. Mann for many years dealt extensively in cattle, horses and sheep. The accommodations for the shelter of stock and the storage of grain are ample, while the farm machinery is of the latest improved pattern and all the other appliances are fully adapted to the general purposes and employments of rural life. Mr. Mann and his sister are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the doctrines of which they were carefully trained from childhood and in the faith of which their parents died.

Mr. Mann cast his first Presidential vote in 1852 and has since given his support to the Republican party. During the late Civil War he contributed largely to the support of the Union cause. To him and his estimable wife there were born two children only, both sons, John and George Dale. His brother John also left two children, Abraham and Marian who are now living with him.

PROF. THEODORE REYNOLDS is an eminent educator of Vermilion County, and is a gentleman who takes a great interest in anything pertaining to the education of the youth. He is the Principal of the Vermilion Academy, Elwood Township, and all his energies are centered in this institution. He is a tireless worker, and one in whose hands the academy will never suffer, for nothing escapes his notice that will forward its material or moral welfare.

Mr. Reynolds was born in Elwood Township, three miles east of Ridge Farm, on June 7th, 1855. His father, Linton Reynolds, was a native of Indiana, and in his early life a wagon-maker and carpenter, but of late years he has followed farming exclusively, and in this line of business he has prospered, being a man of intelligence and energy. His wife was Lydia, daughter of Asa Folger, a prominent pioneer of this county, who came here from Indiana about 1830, with her parents, when she was three years of age, and therefore has been practically reared in this neighborhood. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds are the parents of five children, four of whom are living: Theodore, the subject of this sketch; Luther, Othello and Mary E. (Mrs. Lewis).

Mr. Reynolds was educated in the common schools, the Bloomingdale Academy and Wabash College, being graduated from the latter in June, 1884, with a degree of B. S., and in 1887 he received the degree A. M, from the same institution. Before being graduated from college Mr. Reynolds taught school for five years, his first effort in this direction being at Locust Corner, in Elwood Township. He made an application in 1884 for his present position, but was rejected. After his rejection he taught the Vermilion public school for eight months, commencing in September, 1884, and before the year had expired, the same board that had rejected him gave him a call to take charge of the academy, which he accepted, entering upon his duties in September, 1885. He has remained in charge of the institution since, being elected for the fifth consecutive year. Mr. Reynolds has given great satisfaction to all the people who are connected with the academy, and it is safe to say that the tenure of his office rests solely upon his will.

The Vermilion Academy is rapidly coming to the front as a standard institution of learning. It was established at Vermilion Grove in 1874, by the Quarterly Meeting of the Society of Friends, which meets at this place annually. They recognized the fact that they needed a place where their people could be educated in the same manner as other de-

nominational schools, and the result of their deliberations in this direction was the establishment of this Academy. The building is a large two-story structure, built of brick, and was erected in the year named by private subscriptions, and also has been the beneficiary of endowments. The incorporators were all members of the Quarterly Meeting, and in 1875, when the corporation was formed, a resolution was passed creating all members of the Quarterly Meeting over twenty-one years of age legal members of the corporate body, thus making the school the property of the church. There are about seventy students in attendance, and Mr. Reynolds has one assistant.

Mr. Reynolds married Lovina J., daughter of Samuel Kuykendall. The latter is a resident of Indiana, and a farmer living near Terre Haute. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds have three children—Cora B., Ethel L. and Bertha. Mr. Reynolds established a graduating course, and nine were graduated this year. The commencement exercises were full of interest, each one acquitting himself and herself nobly. As a matter of course, Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds belong to the Quaker Church. They are very highly respected in the community as good neighbors and excellent citizens.

MRS. CATHERINE T. MORELAND, widow of Thomas R. Moreland, is one of the most active and cheerful of the elderly ladies of Carroll Township, and is a general favorite with all, old and young. She is the daughter of Peter and Susan (Miller) Hedges, natives of Bourbon County, Ky., where they passed their entire lives, and where their remains were laid to rest to await the resurrection morn.

Grandfather John Hedges was born near Baltimore, Md., on his father's farm, the Hedges having been farmers throughout several generations, following that occupation in Maryland and Virginia. The genealogy of the Hedges family can be traced back to the person of Sir Charles Hedges, who was a worthy English Parliamentarian, and graduate of Oxford University, from which institution he received his diploma in 1675. He was appointed one of the chief Secretaries of State under Queen Anne in 1700, and about the same time was returned to Parliament in which body he held a seat several years, but when the Whigs obtained control of the government in 1707 he was dismissed. At his death in 1714 he left one son, Charles, who on his demise divided his vast estate, by will, between his family of five children which consisted of one son and four daughters. This son, Joseph, emigrated to America where he made a home, and continued to reside in this country until his death which occurred in Prince George's County, Md. From him spring the large family of Hedges in America, and a vast estate estimated at $250,000,000 is still left in England awaiting the rightful heirs to prove their claim and secure the money.

The parents of our subject had four children who grew to maturity, namely: Henry, Zerilda A., Catherine T., Mary A. and John T., who was a son of Mr. Peter Hedges by his second wife and now resides in Bourbon County, Ky. Mrs. Moreland is the only survivor of the children born to the first wife. She was born Nov. 5, 1827, in Bourbon County, Ky., where she passed her childhood and young ladyhood. She attended the best private schools in the county and completed her education at a seminary taught by the Sisters in Lexington, Ky. She entered that institution when a miss of fourteen and completed the course with high honor when about eighteen, having endeared herself by her many good qualities and amiable traits of character not only to the gentle ladies in charge of the school, but also to her school-mates with whom she was a general favorite.

Miss Catherine took upon herself the duties of wifehood at the early age of nineteen years in 1847 when she was married to Thomas R. Moreland in 1817. The wedding occurred during the palmy days of slavery, and as the parents of Mrs. Moreland owned a large number of slaves, the exquisite fairness of the dainty bride and her attendants, was well set off against a dusky background formed by the sable followers of the numerous guests usual on such occasions, mingling with the home representatives of the "peculiar institution." Although the colored members of the Hedges' estate occupied

a servile position, their love and esteem was lavishly bestowed upon young "missie," and no truer or more heartfelt wishes for her welfare were uttered, than came from the lips of the so-called inferior race.

Mr. Moreland, a native of Bourbon County, Ky., was born March 27, 1827. His parents William and Margaret (Whaby) Moreland, were both natives of Pennsylvania, in which State they were married and from which they emigrated to Kentucky, establishing themselves in the above named county, and making that their home during the remainder of their lives. They prospered in the new locality and reared their family in comfort giving them an excellent education.

About ten years after marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Moreland left their childhood's home and located in Carroll Township, Vermilion Co., Ill., the date of their arrival in that State being 1857. Their change of location proved a fortunate one as they prospered finely in their new home, and their bark glided smoothly over the stream of life, meeting few obstacles to hinder its progress until 1864, when Mr. Moreland crossed over the river, leaving Mrs. Moreland to continue the journey onward without his sympathy and companionship. Although lonely and sad at times, she is, at the age of sixty-two, a cheerful, active lady, a desirable acquaintance for those in prosperity and a sympathetic friend to those in adversity. Mr. and Mrs. Moreland became the parents of eight children, seven of whom are living, their residences being in various places in the States of Indiana, Missouri and Illinois.

JONAH M. DAVIS. The subject of this notice established himself at Ridge Farm in the spring of 1855, where, with the exception of one summer spent as a clerk in old Bloomfield, he has since lived and engaged in various branches of business. He is now engaged as a furniture dealer and undertaker, and from his known integrity and promptness in meeting his obligations, ranks among its leading business men. He is well educated and a man of more than ordinary intelligence—one who has made the most of his opportunities in life, and kept his eyes open to what has been going on about him. He numbers his friends by the score in Elwood Township, where his familiar figure has been passing to and fro for the long period of thirty-four years.

Our subject was born on the sea coast near Cape Lookout, in Carteret County, N. C., March 2, 1824. His father, Jesse Davis, was a native of the same county and of Welsh ancestry. The family was first represented in America on Nantucket Island, whence they emigrated to different parts of the country. The parents of our subject set out for the North in the spring of 1832, establishing themselves at Milton, Wayne Co., Ind., where our subject pursued his early studies in a school carried on under the auspices of the Society of Friends. In due time he developed into a teacher, but after teaching two terms, desirous of adding to his store of knowledge, he entered the High School of the Friends at New Garden, Guilford Co., N. C., where he spent the spring and summer of 1847. He taught school the following winter near the old homestead, and returned to Indiana in 1848. He was a resident of Henry County for nearly a year thereafter, then entered the Friends' High School near Annapolis, now (Bloomingdale), Ind., and studied while also acting as assistant teacher a portion of the time. The school was then presided over by Prof. Harvey Thomas, its founder. From this place our subject, in the fall of 1849, made his way to Miami County, Ohio, where he taught school a year on the Still Water, near Ludlow Falls, where there is an extensive cedar grove, supposed to have been planted by the Indians, and which was an object of admiration to both residents and travelers.

Mr. Davis, in the fall of 1850, came to this county and took charge of the public school at Vermilion Grove, which numbered 110 pupils, considered at that day something remarkable. He was obliged to employ assistants, and held this position five years, after which he came to Ridge Farm, and was engaged with Abraham Smith in the mercantile business for a few years, and then with Henry C. Smith a year or two; continuing the

business in company with a brother under the firm name of Davis Bros. until the year 1867. Merchandising was a lucrative avocation during these years, which included the war of the slaveholder's rebellion. In the year 1872 the brothers built the Ridge Farm flouring-mill, which they sold six months thereafter, and our subject retired from active business life for several years.

The 9th of November, 1875, witnessed the marriage of our subject with Miss Ella, daughter of Benjamin F. Jenkins, and who, like her husband, was also a popular teacher prior to her marriage. They have three children—Royal, Ruby and Nellie. Mrs. Frances C. Jenkins, the mother of Mrs. Davis, is a prominent minister in the Friends' Church, a noted temperance worker, and an active member the W. C. T. U. Mr. Davis and his wife are both connected with the Society of Friends, and render efficient service in every Christian enterprise, being careful to devote at least one tenth of their income to benevolence.

In the year 1886 Mr. Davis purchased a furniture store in Ridge Farm, and has been pleasantly employed with his congenial wife in pleasing the tastes of their great host of friends far and near. Mr. Davis, politically, votes with the Republican party, but has no time or inclination for the responsibilities of office.

WILLIAM H. RODRICK. As a native citizen of Vermilion County, born here in pioneer times, son of one of the very earliest settlers, this gentleman has witnessed the greater part of its development, and since attaining manhood has borne an honorable part in promoting its growth, and is identified with its agricultural interests. He owns and manages a good farm in Danville Township, and is numbered among its substantial, highly respected citizens.

He was born in Newell Township, this county, April 24, 1833. His father, Solomon Rodrick, was born in Ohio, Sept. 19, 1803. His grandfather, Daniel Rodrick, was a native of Germany, was reared and married there, and afterwards, coming to America, settled near Chillicothe, Ohio, and was a pioneer there. He bought a large tract of land, on which he built a log house, and then commenced to clear a farm. But floods in the Ohio River spoiled his crops and drowned his stock, and that disaster, with prior claims on his land, ruined him financially, and he died there a poor man. The father of our subject was reared in that pioneer home, and lived there until 1825. He then came to Illinois, and was one of the first settlers of Vermilion County. He entered a tract of Government land in Newell Township, improved a good farm, and resided there until 1884. In that year, having accumulated a competency, he came to Danville to make his home for the future, and is still living here in honorable retirement, free from the cares and labors of his earlier years. He has been three times married. The maiden name of his first wife, mother of our subject, was Sarah Brewer.

William Rodrick obtained his education in the primitive pioneer schools, taught in a log house, the seats being made by splitting logs and hewing one side and inserting wooden pins for legs, and the rude structure was heated by a huge fireplace with a dirt and a stick chimney. As soon as he was large enough, the active lad began to hunt deer, wild turkeys and other game that abounded at that time, and he supplied the family larder with delicious venison, etc. There were no railways here in those early days, and his father used to draw his wheat to Chicago, 125 miles distant, selling it for fifty cents a bushel. At first he used to cut grain with a sickle, and later with a cradle, and having no threshing machine his grain was trodden out by horses or beaten with a flail. Our subject remained an inmate of his father's house until he married and established a home of his own, settling at that time on the farm he still owns and occupies. It was heavily timbered, with the exception of six acres, and his has been the task of the pioneer to develop it from the hand of nature to a well-cultivated estate, all but thirty acres cleared and under tillage, neatly fenced, and provided with a substantial, roomy set of frame buildings, the whole forming one of the pleasantest homes in the township.

Mr. Rodrick was married in 1853 to Mary A.

Brewer, who was, like himself, a native of Vermilion County, born in Danville to William and Sarah (Switzer) Brewer. To them came ten children, five of whom are living—Thomas R., Sarah C., Mary E., Francis and Minnie May, six having died in infancy. Death invaded the happy household of our subject and removed the loved and loving wife and mother.

In his life-work Mr. Rodrick has shown himself to be possessed of prudence, thrift, steadiness of purpose, and other traits necessary to success in any calling. And while laboring to gain a competence, he has not been unmindful of his duties as a good man and a reliable citizen, and has won for himself a reputation for honesty and truthfulness, and for considerate and kindly dealings with his neighbors, who hold him in great respect.

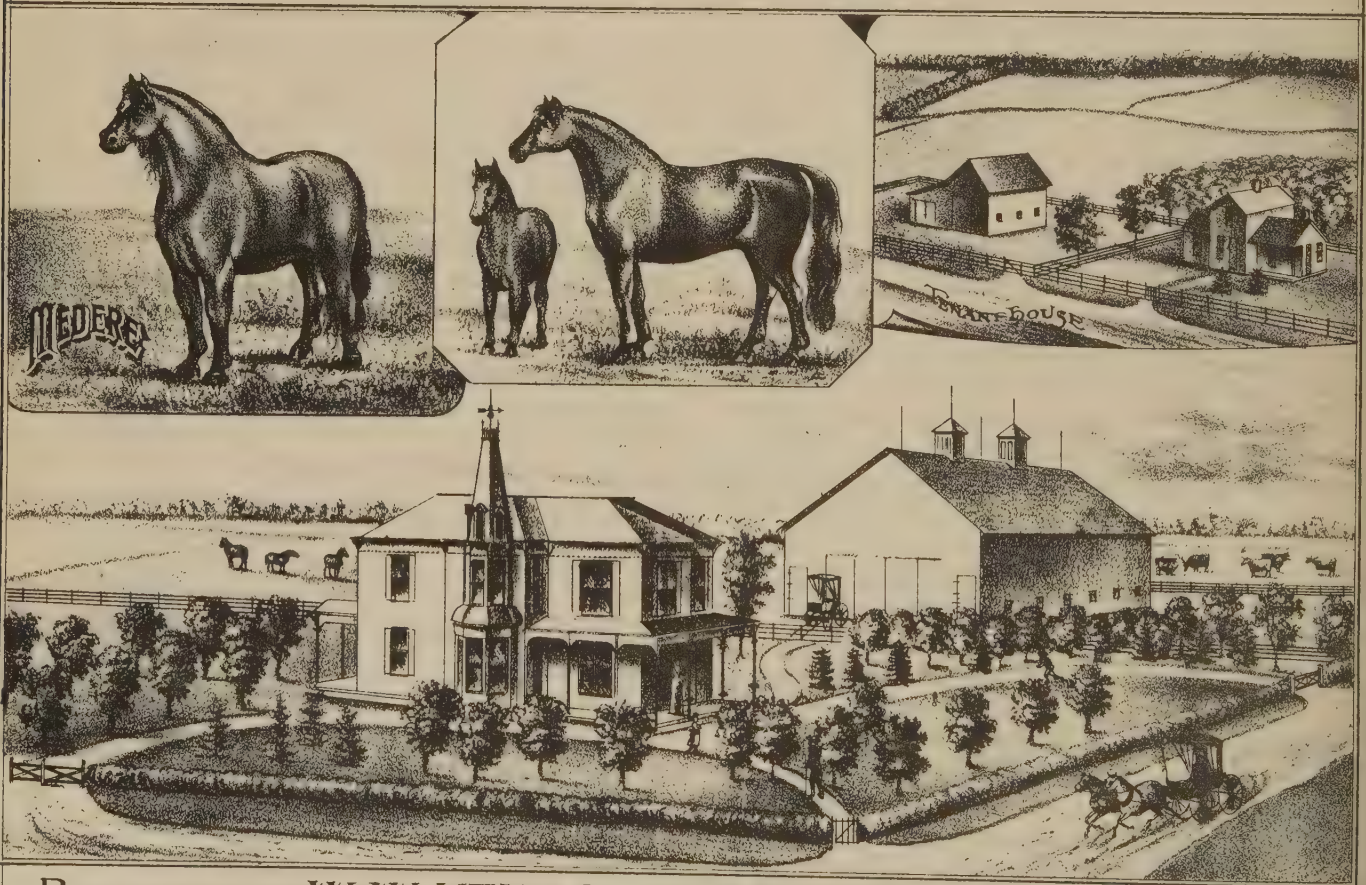
THOMAS BRADY, living in honorable retirement in Catlin Village in one of the finest residences in the place, and one of the pleasantest homes in the county, was formerly largely identified with the agricultural interests of this section, and still owns 500 acres of very valuable farming land, nearly all located in this township. Our subject is a native of Vermilion County, born of pioneer parentage, Oct. 8, 1832, in Danville Township, and he may well be proud of its progress and of the part that he has played in bringing about his present high standing, wealth and prosperity.

The father of Thomas Brady, John Brady, was born in the old commonwealth of Virginia, while his mother was a native of Ohio. They married and settled in Brown County, the latter State, and remained there till 1832. In that year they decided to try pioneer life still farther westward, and pushing their way to Illinois, they located in Danville Township and were among its early settlers. The father took up land and busily engaged in its improvement till death removed him from his sphere of usefulness in 1855. His wife died in 1848, when she laid aside the cares and toils of earth to fall into that dreamless sleep that knows no waking this side of the grave. Fourteen children were the fruits of the marriage of those good people, of whom Thomas was the seventh. His early years were passed on his father's farm, where he learned the practical part of a farmer's life, and his education was gleaned in the log school-houses of those days. He remained an inmate of the parental household till he was twenty-two years old, when he married and settled in a home of his own across the line in Catlin Township, and was a resident of his farm there till 1881, giving all his time and attention to agricultural pursuits, and to such purpose that his well directed labors were handsomely rewarded by a fine competence, and he was enabled to take his place among the wealthy, substantial farmers of this section of the country. In the year just mentioned he retired from the active labors of his farm to the village, where he erected his present commodious, well-fitted up dwelling.

Mr. Brady has been twice married. To the wife of his early manhood, America Finley by name, he was wedded in Georgetown Township. She was a native of Vermilion County, and a daughter of Mahlon and Margaret (Falls) Finley, deceased. Two children were born to our subject by that marriage—Clarence M. and George M. Mrs. Brady was a woman whose character combined so many fine traits of mind and heart that she was an influence for good to those about her. She was a woman of devoted Christian piety and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Her death, which occurred in Winfield, Kan., May 8, 1883, while on a health-seeking tour, was a loss not only to her family, but to church and society, and to the community at large, where she was so well known and esteemed.

Mr. Brady was married to his present wife, formerly Miss Lura Williams, March 21, 1885. She is a native of Vermilion County, born Jan. 20, 1851 to Myron and Sarah (Sterrett) Williams, natives, respectively, of Pennsylvania and Virginia. She was the second child of their family of ten children. Mrs. Brady is a woman of true refinement and much culture, and is an artist of much merit, many of her beautiful pictures adorning the walls of the attractive home, over which she presides so graciously, warmly co-operating with her husband

RESIDENCE OF JOHN THOMAS, SECS. 20-21 (T 19-R 12) CATLIN TP., VERMILION CO.



RESIDENCE OF W. W. KENT. SEC. 25. (T. 21 - R. 11.) NEWELL TP., VERMILION CO.

in extending its charming hospitality to friend or stranger.

Mr. Brady has accumulated wealth, not only by steady industry and sound judgment in all matters pertaining to his business, but by a strictly upright course in all his dealings with others has won the fullest trust of his fellow-townsmen. He is a Democrat in his political beliefs, but has never sought office, preferring the quiet and peace of his happy fireside to the turmoil of public life. Mrs. Brady is connected with the Christian Church as one of its most zealous workers and members.

W. W. KENT is a most affable and agreeable gentleman, who is proud, as he well may be, of his family and splendid residence. Mr. Kent was born in 1850, on the 26th of March, and spent his boyhood days near State Line, Ind. In 1868 he married Miss Emma Cronkhite, the daughter of Hosa and Elenor(Garrettson)Cronkhite, natives of New York, from which State they came at an early date, and settled in Warren County, Ind. Here Mrs. Kent was born and raised with her five elder sisters and brothers. Her union with Mr. Kent was blessed with six children: Claudie W., deceased at the age of two years and six months; Perrine, who attended college at Greencastle, Ind., and at the De Pauw University; Clarence, Stelle, and Grace, who died at the age of four months; and Inez, the last, who was twenty-three months old at the time of her death.

Mr. Kent lived in Indiana until 1872, when he went to Kansas and located in Coffee County. Here he farmed for eighteen months, after which he came back to Illinois and settled on his present farm of 200 acres. Year by year he increased the extent of his possessions until it now amounts to 460 acres, which he has improved by placing upon it an unusually fine building, in which he resides. This house was in fact the finest in the county at the time of its erection in 1883. The arrangement of his land is as artistic as it is convenient. The laying of the lawns, the fixing of the shrubbery, and the placing of trees and walks, speak a taste European in its accuracy. In his stables may be found studs of the finest horses, and he is the owner of the celebrated stallion "Medino." He makes a specialty of fine Short-horn cattle and Percheron horses.

In politics Mr. Kent is a Democrat, and his views are strong and well founded, and his opinion is often sought to settle a debate. Although he is stanch in his ideas he has never aspired to the holding of an office. Mr. Kent's education is an excellent one, and his stock of general information is unrivaled by that of any man in the township in which he lived. This education was acquired by hard study at the college of Crawfordsville, Ind., of which he is a graduate of the business course. It is not learning alone, nor is it physical power that makes a perfect man, but it is the combination of both of these attributes. This fact is fully appreciated by our subject. He is therefore never tired of aiding the workingman to obtain the knowledge necessary to his calling.

Mr. Kent has served as School Director in his township for some time. He affiliates with the Presbyterian Church. His home is surrounded with every convenience and comfort, and he is generally appealed to in local matters, as he takes great pride in assisting in anything whatever that may serve to aid or improve his surrounding friends.

In all the township in which he lives, there is no man more respected and looked up to than our subject. His sound judgment, his large charities, and his kindly disposition, have made him loved and honored by all who know him. Mr. Kent has one of the finest residences in the township, a view of which is shown elsewhere in this work.

JOHN THOMAS is identified with the agricultural and coal interests of Vermilion County, and has a fine farm on sections 21 and 20, Catlin Township. On it there is a valuable deposit of coal which he works, while at the same time he is actively engaged in the cultivation of his land. Our subject is of mingled Welsh and English ancestry, although his parents, Jacob

and Sarah Thomas, were both natives of England. After marriage they settled in the southern part of Wales, where they ultimately died, having spent a part of their wedded life, however, in England, and there their son John, of this biography, was born Jan. 11, 1834, near the town of Bristol, in Gloucestershire. His parents moving to Southern Wales, he was reared to manhood in that part of the country, and was early put to work to earn his own living in the coal mines. In 1851, anxious to better his prospects in life, he resolved to try life in the New World, in that part of it embraced in the United States of America. According he emigrated to these shores with his wife and four children in 1851, and landing in New York made his way to Tioga County, Pa., and lived there and in Ohio for some years. In 1857 he came from Cambria County, the former State, to Vermilion County, and has ever since resided here. He was at first employed in the coal-mines in the vicinity of Danville, but about 1859 he invested some of his hard-earned savings in his present farm in Catlin Township, and has built up a substantial home here. He owns 160 acres of fine land, and by its cultivation and the mining of the valuable coal bank on it, derives an income that places him among the independent, moneyed men of his neighborhood.

Mr. Thomas has been three times married. His first marriage, which took place in South Wales, was to Miss Jeanette Price, by whom he had two children, John and Mary Ann. The wife and mother departed this life in South Wales. Mr. Thomas was a second time married in South Wales, Miss Ann Davis becoming his wife, and the following children were born to them: John, Tom, Sarah, Emma, Anna, Shadrack, Meshack, Abednego and Martha. Abednego, Jacob G. and Anna are dead. Mrs. Thomas accompanied her husband across the waters from their old home, and in 1865 closed her eyes to the scenes of earth. Mr. Thomas' marriage to his present wife took place in Danville, Ill., March, 1868. At that time she was the widow of a Mr. Baker, and by her first marriage had five children—Elizabeth J., Eva M., Cora B., Mark B. and Lewis E.

Mrs. Thomas' maiden name was Paulina Williams, and she is a daughter of Thomas and Paulina (Rote) Williams, the fourth child in a family of twelve children, and was born in Ripley, Ind., March 21, 1835. Her father came to this country from his native England when he was fifteen years old, and lived to quite an advanced age, dying in Catlin Township, March 15, 1889. After the death of his first wife, Mrs. Thomas' mother, a native of Dearborn County, Ind., who died in Ripley County, Mr. Williams came to Vermilion County in 1851, and established himself permanently in Catlin Township. He married for his second wife Mrs. Catherine (Falls) Pate, and she dying in Catlin Township, he was again married, taking to wife Mrs. Margaret (Fruits) Patterson, who is still a resident of Catlin Township. Mrs. Thomas is a woman of more than average ability and force of character, and is well endowed with sound sense and good judgment, and these traits have made her an invaluable helper to her husband. She is a cheerful and ready giver, possessing a charitable, sympathizing nature, and is highly thought of by all in the community.

Mr. Thomas is a man of good standing in the township, and his thrift, shrewd management of his property, and methodical habits have been the means of placing him among the well-to-do citizens of the place. He is a worthy member of the Oakwood Lodge I. O. O. F. No. 564 at Oakwood. He affiliates with the Republican party, having cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and is an ardent supporter of the principles of that party. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have a comfortable home, a view of which is presented elsewhere in this work, and there they welcome and most hospitably entertain their many friends.

CHARLES T. CARAWAY is a son of one of the earliest pioneers of Vermilion County, and for many years has been connected with its immense farming interests. A native of Catlin Township, where he was reared and the most of his life has been spent, it has no better or more public spirited citizen that he, one who is ever interested in its welfare, and is always glad to promote in any

way in his power, its highest interests, material, social, educational, and moral. His well-ordered farm on section 29 is conducted after the most approved methods, so as to produce the best results with the least expenditure of labor and time, and here he has built up a home that is not rivalled in pleasantness and comfort by any in its vicinity. As representing one of the many beautiful homes of Vermilion County, we are pleased to present to our readers a view of Mr. Caraway's residence. Mr. Carawav is a fine representative of the citizen-soldiers of our country, who in the trying times of the late Rebellion, laid aside all personal aims, and leaving happy homes and loved friends, went forth to Southern battle-fields to fight for the dear old flag or die in its defense. For good conduct in camp and field, and for bravery in the face of the enemy, our subject was promoted from the ranks, and won an honorable military record, of which he and his may well be proud.

Charles T. Caraway, was born in this township Oct. 22, 1838, the posthumous son of another Charles Caraway, whose earthly career had been untimely ended the month preceding that in which our subject first saw the light of day. The father was a son of Thomas Caraway, and was born in Greenbriar County, W. Va., in 1788. After attaining to man's estate he married one of his neighbor's fair daughters, Elizabeth McCorkle by name, who was also a native of that county. They lived a few years in their native State, but in 1829 made their way across the wild, sparsely settled country intervening between their old home and this State, and coming to Vermilion County, became very early pioneers of the county. They located in what is now Catlin Township, and here a few years later the stalwart husband and father met his death, in September, 1838, while yet in life's prime, leaving his desolate widow with four children and an unborn babe, who on his birth was named Charles T., in memory of his father. The other children were Harriet, Martha, Isabella, and Ann E. The mother afterward married Anson Butler, and continued to reside in Catlin Township until her death, in 1848.

Our subject grew to a strong and vigorous manhood in Catlin Township, where he has always made his home, and when he arrived at years of discretion chose the calling of agriculture, for which he had a natural aptitude, and has ever since made it his life-work. His farm comprises 160 acres of valuable land, which is well tilled, and he has erected good buildings for every necessary purpose, including a neat and pretty dwelling. He is also a breeder of thorough-bred Short-horn cattle.

In the opening years of his manhood the great Civil War broke out, and our subject, thrilled to the heart by the deep and abiding love of country that animated so many of the true and patriotic spirits of this great Republic in those trying days, and caused them to leave pleasant firesides and and loving friends to go forth to battle for the grand old Stars and Stripes, cast aside the hopes and ambitions of a generous young mind, and the bright prospects of a successful career in his chosen calling, to join his brave compatriots on Southern battle-fields with the solemn feeling that he owed even life itself to his native land. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company I, 35th Illinois Infantry, as a private, and was with his regiment in many important engagements with the enemy, including the siege of Corinth, battle of Stone River, Chickamauga and Mission Ridge. In the latter battle he was severely wounded in the left leg, and confined to the hospital nine months, suffering greatly. Soon after the battle of Chickamauga the names of himself and a few of his comrades were placed on the Roll of Honor, on account of meritorious conduct and daring in the encounter with the enemy, by order of Gen. Rosecrans. Our subject also received further merited mark of approval for his courage and ability as a soldier, whereby he was raised from the rank and file to the position of corporal.

Shortly after the close of the war Mr. Caraway was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Dougherty, their union being solemnized in Decatur, Macon Co., Ill., Aug. 22, 1865. She is the daughter of William and Mary (Myers) Dougherty, well known and highly respected residents of Catlin Township, with whose interests they have been identified for many years. The father was born in Montgomery County, Va., Aug. 15, 1815, and the mother in Brown County, Ohio, Dec. 15, 1815.

After marriage they lived for some time in Ohio County, Ind., whence they came to Vermilion County, Ill., and cast in their lot with the pioneers that had preceded them. That was in the fall of 1856, and they first settled near Tilton, but came from there in 1858 to Catlin Township, which has since been their home. Their happy, peaceful wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of six children, namely: Andrew, Sarah A., Joseph, Jennie, Wallace and Maggie. Andrew and Maggie are deceased. Jennie, Mrs. Caraway, born in Ohio County, Ind., Oct. 20, 1844, and was twelve years of age when she accompanied her parents to this county. Four children have been born of her union with our subject—an infant that died unnamed, Warren E., Charles H. and Nellie B.

Mr. Caraway stands high in the estimation of his fellow-men, not only for his loyalty and patriotism in the late war, but for his conduct in the more peaceful pursuits of life before and since that time. He is a man whose honor is unquestioned, and whose strict regard for what is right is beyond dispute. His public spirit is commendable, and leads him to take a genuine interest in all that concerns the material, moral, or educational welfare of his native township. He has been connected with the administration of its public affairs as Highway Commissioner and in various school offices. He is prominently identified with the following social organizations; Catlin Lodge No. 285, A. F. & A. M.; Vermilion Chapter and Athelstan Commandery at Danville, and politically, belongs to the Union Labor party.

JAMES J. RICE, coming of good old Revolutionary stock, is a representative pioneer of Vermilion County, one of those whose courageous, self-sacrificing toil in the early and later years of the settlement of the county laid a solid foundation for its present prosperity, in which they have also been factors, and who have lived to enjoy the fruit of the seed that they planted so long ago, that has yielded so abundantly in the happy homes, smiling farms, and busy towns and cities now flourishing on the once wild prairies. Our subject came to Vermilion County as early as 1835 and in 1849 came to his present location in Pilot Township. Here he has a farm of 320 acres of choice, highly cultivated land, pleasantly situated on sections 16 and 21.

Mr. Rice was born in Chautauqua County, N.Y., June 13, 1812. His paternal grandfather was of Scotch descent, and he was a faithful soldier in the Revolutionary War, having served seven years. Silas Rice, the father of our subject, was born in the eastern part of New York, and dying when he was away from home, the dates of his birth and death are unknown. The maiden name of his wife was Phebe Leonard, and she was a native of Cayuga County, N. Y. She died in Vermilion County, Ill., in 1857, at a ripe old age. She was the mother of eight children, three of whom are still living, Lucy, Hannah and James. Lucy, living in Danville, this county, is the widow of Isaac Balengee, who was in the rebel army during the late war. She has four children, namely: James H., America, Minerva and Lucy. Hannah married Charles Clifton, of Piqua County, Ohio, now a farmer near Omaha, Neb., and they had three children, Sarah, George and Elizabeth, deceased.

James Rice, of whom we write, received a limited education in common with most farmers' boys of his time, and in the fall of 1835, in the opening years of his manhood, he came to this county, having chosen farming as his life-work, and deciding to cast in his lot with the pioneers of this section of the country who had preceded him, and take advantage of the rich alluvial soil of the virgin prairies. He lived nine years on Salt Fork, and then coming to Pilot Township took up his abode in the eastern part of it and dwelt there five years. At the expiration of that time he located on his present farm, whose value he has greatly increased by unremitting toil, wise economy and a judicious expenditure of money, so that it is classed among the first and best farms of the vicinity. Starting out in life with a capital of $100, he has thus increased it many fold, and is now a man of means and is accounted one of the solid, substantial citizens of the township.

Mr. Rice was fortunate in the selection of a wife

who has been to him all that a true woman can be to her husband, and an important factor in making his life a success, as she has worked unweariedly at his side for the highest interests of their family. Her maiden name was Mary Davis, and she was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, Sept. 13, 1823, her marriage with our subject taking place in Vermilion County, Sept. 11, 1845. Her parents were Isaac and Elizabeth (Coyle) Davis. The father was born in Kentucky in 1796, and the mother in Ross County, Ohio, in about 1799. The father died in 1878 at a ripe old age, and the mother in March, 1867. They were among the early pioneers of Vermilion County, coming here in 1832, and their memory is held in respect. They were the parents of seven children, of whom the following is recorded: Irene married F. M. Brewer, of South Carolina, now deceased, and she is living in Champaign County Ill., with her two children; Emily married George Wilson, of Indiana, now living in Champaign County, and they have four children; Cynthia A. is the widow of Milton Cannon, of Ohio, and she and her five children are living in Champaign County; Diana, living in Vermilion County, near Muncie, is the widow of Daniel Cannon and the mother of two children; Lura J. married James H. West, of Ohio, now deceased, and she and her two children are living in Linn County, Kas.; Owen, a farmer, married Sarah Brown, of Arkansas. Mary is the wife of our subject, and they have six children, namely: Bruce L., Isaac L., George C., Emeretta J., John D., Mary C.; Bruce married Emeline Neff, of Indiana, and they live in this county with their six children, Mary, Grant, Minnie, Oscar, Lucy, Elmer J.; Isaac, a farmer in Hico, Benton Co., Ark., married Clara T. Wilson, of this county, and they have two children, Carrie and J. J.; George C. is a merchant and Postmaster in Charity, Ill.; Emeretta married T. J. Harter, of Indiana, now a farmer in this county, and they have three children, John I., Nellie and Lillie; John D., merchant and Assistant Postmaster at Charity, this county, married Emma Todd, of Putnam County, Ind.; Mary C. lives at home with her parents.

Mr. Rice occupies a high place among the best citizens of Pilot Township, where so many years of his life have been passed, and his strong integrity in word and deed causes him to be regarded with absolute trust by the entire community. He is a prominent member of the Church of Christ and has held the office of Elder for many years. In him the Prohibition party has one of its most earnest and and consistent supporters. Mr. Rice has served very acceptably on the juries of State and county.

OLIVER P. BAUM owns and carries on two farms, the homestead containing 465 acres, while the other embraces a half-section adjoining the village of Sidell on the east. He also has sixteen and three-fourths acres of timber land, close to Indianola. Therefore Mr. Baum may be considered one of the leading land owners. He is a very extensive farmer and one whose success has been steadily growing since he first started in life.

His father, Samuel Baum, settled in Carroll Township in 1829, in company with Michael Weaver, and was one of the prominent pioneers. The father was a very large man, weighing 365 pounds.

The grandfather, Charles Baum, was a prominent man in his day, and noted for his piety. The great-grandfather was banished from Poland and came to the colonies, where he soon established a reputation for patriotism and fidelity to American principles. He married Barbara McDonald, and settled in Bucks County, Pa., immediately succeeding the struggle for independence in 1776. Soon after Wayne's treaty with the Indians, he with his family sailed down the Ohio in a family boat, and made the first settlement in that territory, close to the mouth of the Bullskin Creek. He died full of years and honors in Clermont County, in the State he helped to form.

The mother of the subject of this biography was Sarah Weaver, the oldest daughter of Michael Weaver, who was a man possessed of a great many peculiar characteristics. He always had money to loan, but would never take more than six per cent.

for its use, when he could easily ask and obtain forty. He was a rich man when he came from Ohio to this county, in 1829, and many a pioneer owes to Michael Weaver a debt of gratitude. He was as generous and open-hearted a man as ever lived. He would fix the price for his corn at a reasonable rate, and would not take for it either a higher or a lower price. He adhered inflexibly to the rule that it was not right to extort by speculation or any other method, and when he made a price on any commodity, it was based upon actual cost, with a living profit added. Mr. Weaver studiously endeavored to aid the poor, but he invariably refused to loan money to speculators. By this it will be seen that his peculiarities were all virtues. At the great age of nearly one hundred and one years he passed away to his reward. The mother died when she was about forty years old, leaving eight children, of whom Oliver P. is the oldest. His father was married a second time, to Mrs. Polly (Sandusky) Matkin, four children being born of this union.

Oliver P. Baum, was born in January, 1828, his birthplace being Clermont County, Ohio. He grew to man's estate in Carroll Township, and at the age of thirty-three his father died, leaving him a good property. He has been engaged in feeding cattle for the past thirty years. The market places for his stock are Chicago and Buffalo, where he is well and favorably known as a business man. He also feeds a large number of hogs, and in this branch of stock-raising he is equally successful. As Mr. Baum puts it, "nothing but prairie grass and rattlesnakes were on the land in Vermilion County when he came here." He passed through all the trials and tribulations of a pioneer, and has witnessed Illinois struggle from comparative poverty up to affluence, and attain the proud position of a sovereign State. Far better than all the titles that royalty can bestow, is the simple one of a pioneer. The nobility has torn down, while the mission of the pioneer was to build up, and when the awards are given to mankind, whose will be the highest?

Mr. Baum erected the elegant mansion which he now occupies in 1875, and in its construction is exhibited a great deal of common sense. He also has a large barn, 44x60, which is a model of strength and utility. His place is laid out in a manner to insure good results, and for the perfect handling of stock. Taking this farm as a whole, including its buildings, surroundings and everything connected with it, it would be no exaggeration to make the statement that for the purposes for which it is designed there is not a better farm in Vermilion County.

In 1871 Mr. Baum was married to Miss Helen McClenathen, of Washington County, Pa., daughter of George S. and Sarah (Remley) McClenathen, both natives of the Keystone State. When her parents came to Danville Township, Mrs. Baum was five years old, and therefore her early training and growth to womanhood occurred in this neighborhood. Her father and mother are both living in Fairmount, retired at the ages of seventy and sixty-four, respectively. They had twelve children: James, William, Helen, Lucy, John, Belle, Anna, Emma, Owen, Ethel, Volney and George Byron. Mr. and Mrs. Baum, are the parents of one child—Herbert. She is a member of the Kingsley Chapel, Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Baum votes with the Democratic party. His present fortune and position in society are based upon his intelligence and industry.

JOHN J. JACKSON, a popular and energetic farmer of Sidell Township, owns and operates 160 acres of land on section 31, township 18, ranch 14. He is a native of Ohio and was born Jan. 31, 1828. His parents came to Clinton County, Ind., when he was a small boy. His father and mother, John and Katie (Ross) Jackson, were born in Pennsylvania, and before leaving that State were married. From there they removed to Ohio, where they resided for some time and in 1829 emigrated to Indiana, remaining there until death called them away.

The father was an early settler and a leading man in his county and was considered one of the best farmers in his section. He died in 1846 at the early age of forty-seven years, leaving behind him eight children: Christina, Elizabeth, Martha, Henry,

John J., Abraham, Andy and Amos. The subject of this sketch received his education at the subscription schools—incident to the days of his boyhood, and therefore his advantages for securing an education were limited. His father, like all of the early pioneers of Indiana, was extremely poor, and his children were therefore obliged to work as soon as they were able. John J., being the oldest boy, was obliged to take the lead in work, and was held responsible, in a measure, for its being well done, and to this fact may be traced the reason of his being painstaking in everything he does.

At the age of twenty-one years Mr. Jackson was married to Miss Ellen McCray, a native of Virgia, but who was reared to maturity in Clinton County, Ind. After marriage, the young couple lived in the latter state for two years on a farm, after which they removed to Coles County, Ill., and in the fall of 1853 they took up their residence in Vermilion County, where they purchased 120 acres of land, which is a part of the quarter section where they now live. There was a log house, and forty acres broken on this land when they bought it, and independent of this, there were no improvements. By his first wife he became the father of two children: Susan J., who died at the age of eighteen years and five months, and Laura, who is the wife of Richard Keys, the latter couple having three children: John J., Grace and Lydia. Mr. Keys is engaged as a smelter and lead miner in Jasper County, Mo. Mr. Jackson's first wife died in 1860 and he married a second time, in 1881, Mrs. Mary E. Kieffer, widow of Frank Kieffer of Ohio. She was born in Crawford County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Jacob and Eleanor (Montgomery) Andrews. Her father's people were from Pennsylvania, and her mother was born near Baltimore, Md.

Mrs. Jackson's parents removed to Greene County, Pa., in 1827, where they first met each other and were married. They later removed to Ohio, where they resided on a farm which they purchased from the Government. Here they resided until their death, the father dying in 1878 at at the age of seventy-nine, while the mother passed away in 1874, sixty-eight years old. Twelve of their children are living: Samuel, John, Hiram, Robert, St. Clair, Madison, Ella, Charity, Lemon, Jane, Lois and Mary; besides there were two brothers who died in the army—Jacob and Frank. Two sisters also died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are the parents of two children—Alta Marie and Lemon J. Mrs. Jackson attended public school at home after which, at the age of nineteen, she entered Bucyrus College, her studies embracing the scientific course. She later took up her studies at Oberlin College, where she continued a student for a short time. Mr. Jackson is a leading citizen in his township, where he has served as Commissioner of Highways at various times for the last quarter of a century and is at present holding that office. He is a member of the Democratic party and an energetic worker in its ranks, and socially he belongs to Palermo Lodge, No. 646, located at Palermo, Edgar County.

DAVID LAYTON. In passing through a section of country, it is not difficult to determine who are the thrifty and enterprising men, and who are the drones in a community. Occupying a part of section 19, in Middle Fork Township, is the Layton farm, built up by the subject of this sketch, and noticeable on account of the commodious and substantial brick residence, which with its surroundings, comprising all the appliances of the well-regulated country estate, forms the home of our subject, and which has been erected by his own thrift and energy. He is one of the many who began life poor in purse, and who have presented to their community the spectacle of perseverance amid difficulties and the success of well-directed effort.

The Layton record leads us back to the paternal grandfather of our subject, John Layton, who, it is believed, was a native of New Jersey. Early in life he migrated to New York State, where he lived many years, and where, it is believed, he was first married. Among his sons was Job, the father of our subject, and the second in a family of eight children, of whom the first wife was the mother. After her death John Layton was married to a

widow lady, Mrs. Ayers, and with her spent his last days in New York State.

The father of our subject was reared to manhood in the place of his birth—Brown County, N. Y.—and was there married to Miss Rachel, daughter of Alford Rounds, a native of Rhode Island. In the Rounds family there were perhaps nine children, who, with the exception of two, are supposed to have been born in New York State. The parents of Mrs. Layton, like those of her husband, spent their last years there.

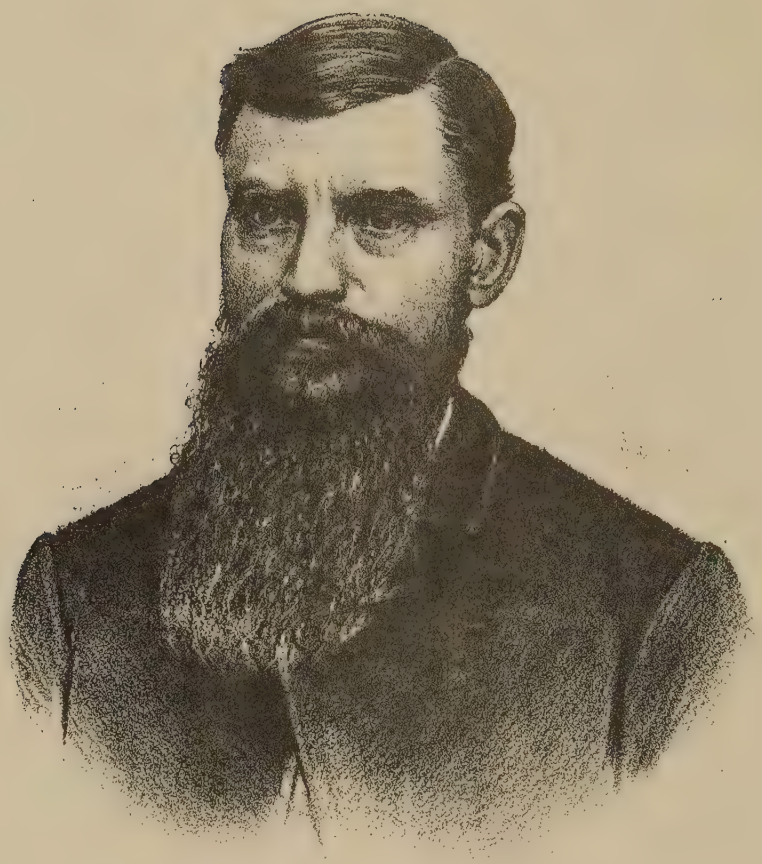
Job Layton and his estimable wife also became the parents of nine children, of whom David, our subject, was the eldest. The others were named respectively: John, Jacob, James E., Franklin, George, Elizabeth, Harriet—these all living—and one deceased. The mother was a member of the Presbyterian Church. David, who was born in 1828, was reared at the homestead in Brown County, N. Y., where he acquired his education in the subscription schools. In 1850 he started out to paddle his own canoe, launching his little craft for the far West. In making the journey thither, he embarked on a steamboat at Dunkirk, N. Y., whence he proceeded to Toledo, and from there by canal to Covington, Ind., where he took up his abode, and worked on a farm five years, by the month, for one man, Mr. R. D. Brown. For the first year he received $10 per month, and was given an increase of salary each year until the fourth, when he was paid $25 per month for the entire year. This at that time was considered a generous sum, and the young man was naturally proud of it. He saved his earnings, and when he left the employ of Mr. Brown, purchased a ditching machine with which he operated profitably, earning from $1,000 to $1,200 per year for several years, and thus laid the foundation of future competence.

Being thus prospered, it is quite natural that Mr. Layton at the proper time should think about establishing a home of his own. A young man of his acquirements was naturally a favorite among the maidens of his community, and he chose one of its most estimable young ladies—Miss Martha, daughter of William and Sarah (Bows) Wilson, their wedding taking place in Indiana. In April, 1863, they settled on the farm where they now live. Only seventy acres had been plowed, and the only improvement was a little log house. Into this the newly wedded pair removed, and occupied it until they were enabled to do better. Our subject added to his first purchase, and now has 240 acres of land, all fenced and in a high state of cultivation. He has now nine acres of timber. Notwithstanding he has labored assiduously, and has suffered somewhat from the toils and struggles of his earlier years, he is still in good health, and can accomplish more than many a younger man.

To our subject and his estimable wife there were born four children, namely: Charles; Anna, the wife of Charles Cordell; C. Grant, who is in the grocery and hardware business at Potomac; and William, who died when a promising youth of fifteen years. Mr. Layton, politically, is a sound Republican, and in all respects a worthy representative of the worth and respectability of the community. The parents of Mrs. Layton were natives of Pennsylvania, where the father learned the trade of a cabinet-maker, which he followed until his removal to Indiana, after which he engaged in farming.

WILLIAM H. DOWNS, proprietor of the "Southern Hotel," of Ridge Farm, although not very long established in this place—coming here in March, 1888—is giving ample evidence of his fitness for his present calling, and has become exceedingly popular with the traveling public. He is a man of liberal ideas, enterprising and active, studying the comfort of his guests, and attending to those details which make up the sum and substance of a successful whole. He is a native of this county, having been born in Elwood Township, Oct. 25, 1860.

Leander Downs, the father of our subject, was a native of Ohio, and came with his parents to Illinois when a boy. They settled in Clark County, Ill., and Leander when reaching man's estate, was united in marriage with Miss Maria A. Inman, who was a native of that county. Of this union there were born three children, only two of whom



B. F. Dougherty

are living—Lilly M. and our subject. The former is the wife of Benjamin Cook, of Elwood Township.

Young Downs pursued his early studies in the common schools, and then worked with his father on the farm until his marriage. He followed agricultural pursuits until March, 1888, and soon afterward purchased the "Southern Hotel." This being in need of many repairs he refitted it entirely, greatly improving its appearance, and instituting many other reforms. In addition he has a livery business which yields him good returns. Although usually voting with the Republican party he meddles very little with politics, making a specialty of attending to his own concerns.

Our subject was married on the 8th of March, 1881, to Miss Ella E., daughter of Benjamin Purdum, of Ridge Farm, and to them have been born three children—Maude, Bertie and Cassius. Mr. Downs has an interest in his father's old homestead, and from various sources is in the enjoyment of a very comfortable income.

BENJAMIN F. DOUGHERTY. The family history of this gentleman, who is a successful hardware merchant of Fairmount, Vermilion Co., Ill., possesses more than ordinary interest and has fortunately been carefully preserved by the latter representatives who, were, as their ancestors, people of more than ordinary intelligence. This branch of the Dougherty's is of Scotch origin and the great-grandfather of the subject of this notice was an active participant in the Revolutionary War. His son, Francis, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Maryland, March 29, 1769, and died Sept. 29, 1860, at the advanced age of ninety-one years and six months. Christian Dougherty, the wife of Francis Dougherty, died April 19, 1851, aged seventy-five years, five months and sixteen days. He was master of two trades, those of shoe-maker and stone-mason, and also carried on farming. Among his children was Samuel, the father of our subject who was born near Ripley, Brown Co., Ohio; and who married Miss Jane Dalby, whose native place was near White River in Pennsylvania.

The mother of our subject was the daughter of Aaron and Christina (Prong) Dalby, who were married Oct. 12, 1815. The mother died when a young woman, and at her death was the mother of five children. Grandfather Dalby was subsequently married—Jan. 1, 1829—to Nancy Kizer. She also died and he was married the third time, Jan. 23 1837, to Henrietta Catlin. She is now living and is the wife of John McFarland, of Oakwood Township. Aaron Dalby was born July 3, 1796, and his first wife, Christina, was born Jan. 7, of that same year. Nancy Kizer was born Oct. 19. 1804, and Henrietta Catlin, Nov. 16, 1821. Mrs. Jane (Dalby) Dougherty, the mother of our subject was born June 24, 1816, and was married to Samuel Dougherty Aug. 20, 1835. Their wedding took place at the homestead where Grandfather Dalby settled in 1832.

Grandfather Dougherty after coming to Illinois in 1832, settled on the Little Vermilion River in Carroll Township, about one and a half miles northwest of where Indianola now stands, where he remained over winter then purchased land from the government one mile north of where Fairmount, now stands. Samuel after his marriage lived on the farm with his father about one year, which property is now owned by the widow of James Dougherty. Later they removed to another part of the homestead, which now comprises the farm owned by George Price and which lies on the south side of the State road. It was purchased from the government by Grandfather Dougherty. Samuel with the help of his neighbors put up a log house upon the present site of Mr. Price's residence and in that humble dwelling the subject of this sketch was born Feb. 15, 1848.

The father of our subject commenced life in true pioneer style upon a tract of raw prairie about sixty rods from the timber, quite isolated and being the fartherest from the timber of any other settler. Their dwelling, a hewed log house, was finished and furnished in the most primitive style. Their slumbers were often disturbed by the howling of wolves (frequently poking their noses in the cracks of the house) which often lasted the greater part of

the night. There was then nothing to mark the present site of Danville as a town, and nothing but tall grass and a vast prairie between Salt Fork and Little Vermilion timber. Being on the State road the government mails, carried by stage, stopped at the house and Mr. Dougherty officiated as Postmaster for a number of years. The nearest mill was at Perryville, to which point he frequently hauled his oats, while he drove his hogs to Chicago to market.

Upon this farm of 120 acres Samuel Dougherty lived and labored until March, 1852, effected good improvements, putting up building and planting an orchard, which at this time was in good bearing condition. His entire family of seven children were born at this place. He finally, however, imagined he could improve his condition by selling out, and on the 16th of March, that year, removed to another farm of 120 acres, located on section 16, one and three-fourth miles south of Fairmount. Here he proceeded as before, opening up a farm from the raw prairie, set out another orchard, effected various improvements then sold again, this time to Ellis Adams, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume.

On the 20th of November, 1856, Samuel Dougherty once more took up his line of march to another farm of 120 acres, three miles south of Fairmount, to which he later added 160 acres, scarcely any of which was under cultivation at the time of purchase. There he continued to live until his decease. He found that the labor involved in the improvement of three farms was altogether too great for an ordinary constitution, and there followed the natural result—the undermining of his health—from which he suffered for years prior to his death. He had also met with an accident, Nov. 21, 1867, while loading logs on a wagon with his eldest son, William; the chain breaking, the log rolled back upon him and crushed one of his feet, and as a result of this he was confined to his bed until March 14, 1868. He never fully recovered from the shock of this and the debilitating effect of his other ailments, and passed away on the 3d of January, 1871, at the age of fifty-seven years, seven months and six days.

The mother of our subject was a lady of fine constitution, usually remarkably healthy and weighing over 200 pounds. She survived her husband a number of years, dying Feb. 22, 1878, aged sixty-one years, seven months and twenty-eight days. Five of the seven children born to them are now living, and Benjamin F. was next to the youngest. Nancy K. the eldest of the family was was born Oct. 13, 1836, and was married Oct. 9, 1854 to Alonzo P. Mitchell; they have three children and live in Lowry City, Mo. Harriet Ann was born Jan. 27, 1838 and was married June 22, 1854 to John William Cass; they have six children and live one mile and a half south of Muncie. Mary Elizabeth was born March 22, 1840 and was married Nov. 27, 1864 to John M. McCabe, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume; they have four children, two of whom are living; William Aaron was born Feb. 2, 1842 and was married April 29, 1868 to Miss Margaret Orr; he died Nov. 1, 1887 aged forty-five years, and his widow now lives in Fairmount. Francis Marion was born April 13, 1844, and after the outbreak of the Civil War enlisted in Company E, 73d Illinois Infantry, known in the army as the "Methodist Regiment." He died from the effects of a gun-shot wound at Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 14, 1864, at the age of nineteen years ten months and one day, and his remains fill a soldier's grave in the National cemetery at Knoxville, Tenn. He and his brother William were members of the same company, enlisting at the same time—in August, 1862, leaving our subject, a lad of fourteen years of age, at home to work the farm. The youngest child, Christian Jane, was born Oct. 2, 1850, and was married to David Wallace, Nov. 12, 1868. Mr. Wallace served three years in the 1st Indiana Cavalry, then re-enlisted and continued in the army until the close of the war. They are the parents of two children, one living and reside five and one-half miles southeast of Fairmount.

In December, 1562, the father of our subject received this startling telegram from Nashville, Tenn: "Come, Jesse dead, William sick." (Jesse was an own cousin of William.) He responded at once and upon his arrival in Nashville found William stricken down with typhoid fever, and nursed him and some of his comrades for some time there-

after. The loss of rest and the mental strain completely shattered the health of Mr. Dougherty, so that he never fully recovered. As soon as William was able, he procured his discharge, and brought him home, almost a skeleton. When Francis was shot, the father was notified by telegram, and immediately started South, but could only get as far as Louisville, Ky., where he learned that his boy was beyond his earthly aid, having gone to join the army above. He left money to have the body shipped home, but owing to the danger of an attack from the rebels, it could not then be done, and it was never done, and the money was finally returned to him.

Benjamin F. Dougherty received his education in the common schools of Vermilion County, attending upon an average three months in the year for five years. His first teacher, when he was six years old, was Lewis Kirkpatrick, and his last, Pret. Stevens. During the last three months, having completed the third part of Ray's Arithmetic, he took up book-keeping, and, being an apt pupil, made fine progress. He has been a reader all his life, and may be justly considered one among the best informed men of his neighborhood. Every book pertaining to the late Civil War has been perused by him with absorbing interest. Being the only stay of his parents, he remained with them until they no longer needed his filial offices, laboring twenty-three years on the last settled homestead, and he has the consciousness of knowing that he smoothed their pathway down the hill of life, and lightened as far as possible their afflictions and their losses.

On the 26th of September, 1876, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Lilly, daughter of Thornton and Nancy (Dickson) Hubbard, at the home of her uncle, James A. Dickson. Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard were among the earliest settlers of this county, owning a large farm of 370 acres, one and one half miles north of Muncie. Mr. Hubbard was very successful as a farmer and stock-raiser, and was numbered among the prominent citizens of this county. He was born March 20, 1821, near Chillicothe, Ross County, Ohio, and departed this life at his homestead Oct. 18, 1886, aged sixty-five years, six months and twenty-eight days. Mrs Hubbard was born May 1, 1827, in Kentucky, and passed away some years prior to the decease of her husband, dying Jan. 25, 1859. They were the parents of two children, of whom Mrs. Dougherty was the elder, and she was born Sept. 1, 1855.

Mr. Dougherty after his marriage continued farming until early in 1880. On the 13th of February, that year, he had a public sale of his personal property, and on the 23d was removed to Fairmount on a feather bed—the result of illness from being overheated in the harvest field the preceding summer—without hope of recovery. But after moving to Fairmount, his health improved somewhat, and in the summer of 1881 he drove over the county, canvassing for school seats, which farther improved his health. In the following fall he purchased the hardware stock in his present building, having in the meantime sold his farm. He did not contemplate continuing in the hardware trade, but even in poor health success was the result of his efforts, and finally he changed his mind and purchased the property connected with his business, together with his home in Fairmount. He has been very successful in trade, and besides his stove and hardware stock, handles a general line of agricultural implements and lumber.

The five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty are recorded as follows: Willie was born April 17, 1879, and died in infancy; Freddie M. was born April 13, 1880, and died April 9, 1881, aged eleven months and twenty-six days; Floyd Everett was born May 20, 1882, and is now a bright lad of seven years; Samuel E. was born Jan. 22, 1884, and died Jan. 24, 1889, aged five years and two days. Little Eddie was a sweet, bright child, whose mind seemed far in advance of his years. He was gentle, obedient and affectionate, not only with the home circle, but with all his associates. A short time previous to his death he appeared to comprehend that life for him would soon be over, and told his mamma that "God loved him, and would take care of him." A few minutes before breathing his last he repeated his little prayer, "Now, I lay me down to sleep," and soon the pure spirit fled to be forever at rest. The youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty, Stella B., was born Feb. 10, 1886. She is a hearty and promising child.

Fortunately for Mr. Dougherty, his excellent wife has always enjoyed fine health, and he attributes the prolongation of his life to her affectionate care and attention. Mr. Dougherty has never been an active politician in the sense of office-seeking. On the contrary, he has several times declined to enter upon the responsibilities of a public position. Since becoming a voter, he has uniformly supported the principles of the Republican party and temperance, and has endeavored to exert his influence on the side of right. Upon the organization of the Fairmount Building and Loan Association, he was made a Director, and has since been connected with it in this capacity.

Mrs. Dougherty became identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church fourteen years ago, and at last succeeded in bringing her husband into the fold, he having united with this church quite recently—Feb. 18, 1889. He has always been a believer in the Christian religion, but his poor health interfered largely with his taking part, as he desired, in the duties belonging to the church member. The death of his little son was a severe blow to him, as well as to his wife, but his new interest and belief in the comforting and redeeming power of the Savior, has given him strength to bear his affliction, and to believe that "He doeth all things well."

FRANCIS M. ALLHANDS, of Danville, took up his residence at this place in the fall of 1866, and in the fall of the year following, was elected County Treasurer in which office he served ten years. Afterward he served six and one-half years as Deputy County Clerk. He is thus well known to the people of this vicinity. He was born in Montgomery County, Ind., Jan. 17, 1832, and is the son of Andrew Allhands, a native of Butler County, Ohio. His paternal grandfather, Daniel Allhands, was born, it is believed, in Pennsylvania of German parents, and was one of the early pioneers of Butler County, Ohio.

Grandfather Allhands removed from Ohio to Indiana about 1830 and purchasing land in Montgomery County established himself there for life. His son, Andrew was reared and married in his native county and later, like his father, removed to Montgomery County, Ind., where he purchased land that was partially improved, and later sold it at an advanced price and purchased again in that locality, where he first settled in a log house and remained there until 1842.

In the year above mentioned the father of our subject set out for Illinois, making the journey overland with teams. Upon his arrival in this county he purchased a tract of timber land four and one-half miles west of the present site of Danville and upon which was a double log house and forty acres cleared. He proceeded with the improvement of his property and there spent the remainder of his days, resting from his earthly labors in 1851. His first wife, the mother of our subject, was in her girlhood, Miss Margaret Swank, a native of Butler County, Ohio, and the daughter of Jacob Swank who was born in Pennsylvania, was of German descent, and, like Grandfather Allhands, a pioneer of Butler County, Ohio. Mrs. Margaret Allhands departed this life in April, 1841, while still a young woman.

Our subject was ten years old when he came to this county with his parents. He spent his boyhood and youth in assisting to open up the farm, while he acquired his education in the pioneer school. This was before the time of railroads and Chicago was the principal market for grain and other farm produce. Francis M. resided with his parents until eighteen years old, then started for Oshkosh, Wis., with a drove of horses and cattle, from which trip he returned with an ox team. This now flourishing town was then but a hamlet and Indians were plentiful.

Later young Allhands learned the carpenter's trade which he followed in this county until 1861. There was now need for his services as a soldier, and he enlisted Sept. 20 that year in Company E, 35th Illinois Infantry, after which he participated in many of the important battles of the war, including the Atlanta campaign. He was severely wounded at Rocky Face Ridge, May 11, 1864, and on the 18th of July following suffered amputation at Nashville, Tenn. Being unable to rejoin his regiment he was given his honorable discharge and

reached home on the 6th of January, 1865. The spring following he was elected Assessor of Catlin Township and in 1866 took up his abode in Danville of which he has since been a resident.

Mr. Allhands was married in 1858 to Miss Mary J. Hilliary, a native of this county. The four children born of this union were named respectively, Orvilla A., Grant W., Meltie M., and Mabel E. Mr. Allhands belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Republican party, and Kenesaw Post, G. A. R.

JOHN J. CAMPBELL, a prominent and well-informed farmer and stock-raiser of Vermilion County, was born March 1, 1854 in Newell Township, where he passed all his boyhood days on his father's farm. When he was nineteen years of age he went to college at Crawfordsville, Ind., where he spent one year, after which, being equipped with a good education, he began his life work, that of farming.

Mr. Campbell's father and mother Corroyan Campbell and Mary (Britingham) Campbell were born in New York in 1833. The father removed at an early day to Wisconsin where he engaged in trade and where he was successful. The wife died in 1870.

John J. Campbell married Catherine Gernand, daughter of John H. and Tena (Homan) Gernand, who are natives of Pennsylvania and who came to Vermilion County in an early day and settled on a farm one mile north of Danville, where Mr. Gernand now resides. His wife died Oct. 16, 1863 and is now resting in the Danville Cemetery. Mrs. Campbell received her education in Danville where she was reared to womanhood, and is the oldest in a family of three children. She was born Oct. 17, 1856 and is the mother of three children: Charles G., was born Nov. 9, 1876 and is at home; Stella S. was born Sept. 12, 1878, while the birth of Nellie A. occurred on Oct. 8, 1885. After remaining on the farm for about six years Mr. Campbell removed to Danville and engaged in the grocery business, which he successfully prosecuted for about four years, when he went back to his farm where he now resides, enjoying life with everything comfortable surrounding him. His beautiful home consists of 293 acres of splendid land, all in a high state of cultivation and the buildings which are erected here are of a substantial kind. In everything pertaining to the higher grades of live-stock Mr. Campbell is an expert. He is particularly interested in Short-horn cattle of the Bates family and Pomoto strains. He is also devoting a great deal of attention to the improvement in the breed of horses and owns some fine specimens of the Cleveland bays. As a stock-raiser there is none more successful in this county than he, simply because he invites intelligence to guide his efforts in this direction. He reads extensively and profits thereby, and therein lies the success of many a man who is engaged in stock-raising and general farming.

Politically, Mr. Campbell is an active Democrat. He is always ready and willing to make an honorable fight for his party which he does wholly on principle. Mr. Campbell is a member of the Methodist Church, while his wife worships with the Presbyterians. Mr. Campbell is a member of the Masonic Lodge and has belonged to the order since 1852. There is not a man in Vermilion County who takes hold of any project with more energy than Mr. Campbell, and of course he is successful.

OLIVER P. STUFFLEBEAM. This gentleman represents property in this county to the extent of over 1,000 acres of land, and occupies an elegant brick residence in Rossville—one of the finest in the county outside of Danville. His possessions are the result of his own industry and good management. During the years of his early manhood he labored early and late, having in view the accumulation of a competence for his later years, and has arrived at a point very near the realization of his ambition. The example of his courage under difficulties, is one which may well be imitated by many another young man who, like himself, has been early in life thrown on his

own resources. Warren County, Ind., was the early tramping ground of our subject, where his birth took place Feb. 13, 1837. He spent his boyhood and youth in his native county, acquiring a practical education in the common school. He had been left an orphan at the age of seven years and made his home with his maternal uncle, Zebulon Foster, until reaching his majority.

Mr. Stufflebeam came to this county in 1858, and in 1860 purchased a tract of raw land in Ross Township. He at once set about its improvement and cultivation, and in the course of time set out fruit and shade trees, together with hedge fencing, and instituted the improvements naturally suggested to the enterprising pioneer. There sprang up seven miles west of it the town of Rossville, and our subject occupied that farm until 1872. That year he removed to another part of his farm, lying in South Branch Township, and lived there until his removal to Rossville. Like most of the men around him he eventually became interested in stock-raising, which yielded him large profits.

The residence of Mr. Sufflebeam is finely located and built of pressed brick, with tasteful trimmings, handsomely finished, and within bears the evidences of refined taste and ample means. A large number of natural shade-trees furnish a delightful coolness in summer and protect it from the chilling winds of winter. Near by is a ten-acre private park, heavily wooded, and the object of admiration in all the country around.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Anna Johnson, of Tippecanoe County, Ind., was celebrated at the bride's home, March 6, 1862. The household circle was completed by the birth of eight children, all of whom are living. Hattie, the eldest born is the wife of H. H. Brown, of Grant Township, and the mother of one child. The other children, Caroline, Kittie, Charles, Pearl, Abner, Marcia, and Myron remain under the home roof, and are being carefully trained and educated.

Mrs. Stufflbeam was born May 12, 1841, and is the daughter of Abner Johnson, who died in Tippecanoe County, Ind., Dec. 1, 1885, aged seventy-one. His wife, Mrs. Hannah (Fuller) Johnson, had preceded him to the silent land, her death taking place in January, 1881, when she was sixty-three years of age. The father of our subject was John Stufflbeam, who was born in Scoharie County, N. Y., in 1795. He lived there until reaching man's estate, and then started for the West. His first wife died in her youth, and he was then married to Miss Harriet Ostrander, in Indiana. Subsequently he removed to Warren County, that State, and taking up new land opened a farm upon which he lived and labored until his death on May 4, 1844. Our subject, who was the child of the second wife, was then less than seven years of age, and his mother died in January, 1845, at the early age of twenty-nine years. She was born in Kingston, Ross Co., Ohio. By her death four children were left in orphanage, all of whom lived to mature years, and of whom Oliver P. was the eldest. His younger brother, Morgan, is a resident of Warren County, Ind.; Miller O. lives in Kansas; Margaret married a Mr. Walters and they live in Washington.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Michael Stufflebeam, a native of Germany, who upon coming to America located on land in Scoharie County, N. Y., where he operated as a farmer a number of years. Later he came West, to Warren County, Ind., and spent his last days with his son. He was born in 1740 and lived to a ripe old age. His wife died in Scoharie County, N. Y. Our subject politically votes the straight Republican ticket, but otherwise than this has kept aloof from public affairs, preferring to devote his time and talents to his farming interests.

BINGHAM C. GREEN. There is no better indication of a man's life and character than the fact that those nearest to him hold his name in lasting remembrance and evince a desire to perpetuate it in honor and affection. The subject of this notice, late a resident of Ross Township, this county, departed this life at his homestead on section 25, March 26, 1888, and has left behind him the record of an upright life, filled in with benevolence, honesty of purpose and all the qualities which form a character worthy of imitation. Mr. Green was a native of New York,

Ontario County, and was born in September, 1817, His father, Benjamin Green, is supposed to have been a native of New York State, and was the son of Hezekiah Green, who traced his ancestry to England.

Bingham C. spent his early years in his native county, and came to Illinois in 1840, settling in this county, where he met and married Miss Josephine, daughter of Alonzo and Mary A. (Hill) Knight. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Green settled upon the farm which has since remained the home of the family. It was then only slightly improved, and Mr. Green, with characteristic energy and perseverance, labored early and late in the cultivation of the soil, and carrying forward the improvements naturally suggested to the enterprising and progressive citizen. He added to his landed estate, and at the time of his death was the owner of 1,000 acres largely devoted to grain and stock-raising. This property he had accumulated solely by his own industry and good management, having begun life without means and dependent upon his own resources.

Mr. Green was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he officiated as Trustee and to which he contributed liberally for its support. The Green homestead is excelled by none in the county in point of beauty and location and natural attractions, which have been augmented by the exercise of cultivated tastes and ample means. The residence stands about 200 yards from the road, and is approached by a gravel drive through a pretty grove, which lends coolness in summer and protection from the blasts of winter.

The parents of Mrs. Green were natives of Vermont and came to Illinois in their youth. Mr. Knight for many years operated as a contractor, and as such assisted in the construction of the Erie Canal. Later he was interested in a saw-mill. To Mr. and Mrs. Green there were born seven children: Ellen, the eldest daughter, is the wife of William A. Yeazel of this county, and they have seven children; May married C. G. Wilber, of this county, and they have two children; Maurice L. married Miss Mary Thompson and they have two children; Charles and Eva F. remain at home with their mother; Elwood and Clark died when quite young. Ellen belongs to the United Brethren Church, and Mrs. Green with her other children is a Methodist in religious belief, being connected with the church at Mann's Chapel.

MRS. LUCINDA COOPER is the widow of John E. Cooper, who died Aug. 8, 1882. She is the daughter of Larkin and Jennie (Boyce) Cook; the father was a native of Ohio or Virginia, the mother of Ohio. Her parents were married in Dearborn County, Ohio, where they lived on a farm for some time, when they removed to Indiana. Afterward they again removed in 1827 to Vermilion County, Ill. Her father was noted for his strict integrity, and with his amiable wife, soon became known far and wide for their genial dispositions. Their home became famous for hospitality, and they were the leaders in all the merry-making around. They had ten children, Mrs. Cooper being the eighth in order of birth.

Mrs. Cooper first saw the light of day in Dearborn County, Ind. Although but four years old when she left her old home in Indiana, she can remember it very well, and loves to recall incidents that happened there. When twenty-three years old she married Mr. John E. Cooper, a native of Kentucky. Although a Kentuckian by birth, Mr. Cooper was reared in Greene County, Ohio. Coming to Illinois when eighteen, he met and married his wife when he was twenty-seven. Fourteen years after marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cooper moved on their present farm, becoming the owners of 400 acres.

Their union has been blessed by eleven children: Robert and Eliza, died in infancy; George, Clara, Johnnie, Sallie, Anna, Charles, Lizzie, Kate and Quinn. George married Miss Carrie Moreland, and they live in Greencastle, Ind. He is in the livery business. They have three children—Opa, Everett and Glen. Jennie married Russell Jones, and they reside on their farm near Carthage, Mo. They have one child, Bertie. John married Miss Nora Hill, and resides in Greencastle, Ind., being in partnership in business with his brother George.

They have three children, Elmo, L. G., and Jennie. Sallie married John Gilky, who died in 1879. She now makes her home with her mother at the Cooper homestead, and has two children—Sygna E. and Ora A. Anna still brightens her mother's home with her presence. Charles, who married Miss Katie Moreland, resides in Carroll Township, Vermilion County, where he has a fine farm. They have two children—Fleda and Louis. Will Moreland, now of Chrisman, Ill., where he is engaged in the livery business, married Lizzie, who died in 1881, leaving one child, John. Kate married Jethrow Jones, a commercial man, and they now live in Fort Scott, Kan. They have four children—Elgie, Lelah, J. C. and Cora. Quinn manages the home farm, and has proven an adept in agricultural matters.

Mrs. Cooper is a lady of elegant manners and refined tastes, belonging to one of the best families of our country. She has the finest home in Georgetown Township and one that will compare favorably with any place in the State.

SUSAN E. ROSS, is the widow of John Ross and is operating 115 acres of land in Sidell Township. She is a daughter of Samuel and Eleanor McCray, who were born in Virginia. In 1832 Mr. McCray came with his father to Clinton County, Ind., where he became a farmer. He continued in that business with a large degree of success until his death which occurred in 1849 at the age of fifty-five years. His wife died at the home of Mrs. Ross. They were the parents of ten children: John C., Mary E., James R., George G., Susan E., Nancy E., Martha, and Samuel. Two died in infancy unnamed.

Mrs Ross is the only one of this large family now living. John and James enlisted during the war of the Rebellion and the former was shot at Murfreesboro, where he died, while James was drowned in the Missouri River on his way to the field of battle. So it will be seen that her family contributed its share to the putting down of the great rebellion. Mrs. Ross was born Oct. 17, 1831, in Rockbridge County, Va. Her early days in her native county were spent on her father's farm and she received no schooling until she came to Indiana. On March 9, 1851, she was married to John Ross, who was born in Butler County, Ohio, and came to Indiana in an early day with his parents. He contracted his first marriage on Feb. 11, 1838, the bride being Rebecca C. Davis. After his second marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ross lived on a farm in Indiana, for a year and a half, and in the early part of 1856, he and his wife removed to Illinois, settling on the banks of the Little Vermilion River. They lived with Mr. Ross's brother until their house on their present farm was completed, and in this house Mr. Ross lived until the day of his death, and Mrs. Ross has continued to reside there since. They became the parents of ten children: Rebecca J.; Mary E.; Martha A.; Samuel J., who died at the age of eleven months; Almeda; two infants who died; John and Williams, twins, the latter dying at the age of two years and six months, and Elizabeth. Rebecca married George W. Huffman. She died in 1875, leaving two boys: Weldon G. and Charles C. Mary E. is the wife of W. D. Bradfield, who is now in charge of the Ross farm. They own a farm in Kansas. Martha A. married Isaac M. Cundiff, a resident of Saunders County, Neb. They have three children: L. Lester, Orville and Elizabeth. Almeda married J. W. McCoy, of Wyandotte, Kan. They have one child—Clarence D. John is a student at Galesburg, Ill., and graduated in June, 1889. Elizabeth is the wife of John D. Daniels, a teacher residing at Archie.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross made all the improvements on their farm, which are quite valuable. They worked hard to accomplish an end and nobly succeeded. Mr. Ross died April 5, 1877. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and a man of most excellent character, and is remembered as one of the kindest men in this community. He was commonly called "Uncle John," which is an evidence of the respect borne him by his neighbors. He and his wife early joined the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, he remaining a consistent and worthy member of that organization up to the time of his death, while his wife still worships at the same place. Mrs. Ross is living in the enjoy-

ment of what she has earned by the early sacrifices of her pioneer days, and there is not a person who will begrudge her any comfort she may enjoy. She is one of the best of women, and by her children, will be remembered always as one of the kindest of mothers, while her husband's memory will be cherished as long as any of his descendants live.

CASPER JAMES LANGLEY, born in Danville Township, Vermilion County, Feb. 25, 1835, in the pioneer home of one of the well-known early settlers of this region, is now one of its representative citizens. He is one of the most extensive land owners of the township, and is a man of weight and influence in the community where his life has been passed.

Nathaniel Langley, the father of our subject, was born in Nelson County, Ky., his father having been a pioneer of that county, spending his last years there. The father was reared in the place of his birth, and was there married, continuing to live there till about 1830, when he came with his family to this county, the removal being made with teams. He located in Danville Township, buying seventy acres of timber land on section 27. He built a log house, in which the family lived about three years. He then sold that place, and bought over 200 acres on sections 26 and 27, this township, and made his home thereon till death called him to a higher sphere in 1848, at which time the community lost a valuable citizen—one who had ever taken a warm interest in its welfare, and had promoted it to the best of his ability. The maiden name of his wife was Margaret Holtshouser. She was born in Nelson County, Ky., a daughter of John Holtshouser, who had gone from his native State, North Carolina, to Kentucky in pioneer times, and was one of the earliest settlers of Nelson County. There were no roads at that time, and the removal was made with mules, on which the household goods were packed. He cleared a farm, and was a resident there till death closed his earthly career, when he attained the age of nearly one hundred years, his wife also attaining the same remarkable age. The mother of our subject died on the home farm in 1865. There were four children born of her marriage: Elizabeth married John Stevenson, and now lives in Danville Township; Thomas and Charles are dead.

The subject of this sketch was the youngest child of the family. He attended the pioneer schools taught in a log schoolhouse, with home-made furniture, the benches being made of puncheon, with pins for legs. When he was young, deer and other wild game were plentiful, and our subject used to find pleasure in hunting and supplying the table with the delicacies of the chase. There were no railroads here for years, and his father used to go to Chicago, 125 miles distant, it taking from seven to ten days to make the journey over the rough roads. Our subject was thirteen years old when his father died, and he continued to live with his mother and to assist her in the management of the farm till her death. After his marriage he settled on his present place, and has been actively engaged in carrying it on. He has been very much prospered, and his 496 acres of choice land are in a high state of cultivation, and the improvements compare with the best in the township. He has erected a fine set of frame buildings, with all the modern conveniences, and has good machinery to carry on his work.

In the wife, to whom he was married in August, 1865, he has found an able helpmate, one who has co-operated with him in his work, and makes his home comfortable and cosy. Their pleasant household circle is completed by the presence of their nine children—Leona, Nora, Margaret, Hortense, Isabelle, Roscoe C., Joseph, Bessie and James Blaine. Mrs. Langley's maiden name was Isabelle Anderson, and she was born in Fulton County, N. Y., a daughter of William and Martha (Warner) Anderson. Her father was born in the North of Ireland, of Scotch ancestry, and came to America in 1812. He located in New York State, and in 1819 married in Albany. A few years afterwards he bought a farm in Fulton County, and engaged in farming there till his death, in 1851. Mrs. Langley's mother was born in Balston, Saratoga Co., N. Y. In 1852, with her children, she moved

to Perrysville, Ind., and resided there several years, finally coming to Danville, where she died in the home of our subject, Dec. 16, 1877.

Mr. Langley is in every way a credit to the citizenship of his native county, as he is a man of fine personal character, whose habits are exemplary, and he deserves the confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens, who have watched his career with satisfaction. In him the Republican party of this part of the State finds one of its most intelligent and stanch champions. Mrs. Langley is a valued member of the United Brethren Church, and is in all respects a sincere Christian.

WILLIAM H. SCONCE. Among the men who looked upon Vermilion County in its pioneer days, the subject of this notice is worthy of more than a passing mention. He has occupied one farm since 1858, a period of thirty-one years, having settled upon it when it was nothing but raw prairie, without tree, shrub, of building. He labored early and late in the improvement of his property, lived economically and prudently, and at the same time watched the growth and development of this section of country with the interest which is always felt by the intelligent and progressive citizen. He lent a helping hand to those in need during the early days, and has not yet parted with his character for probity, benevolence and kindness. Without making any great display in the world, he has lived the life of an honest man and a good citizen, loyal to his home and his country, and contributing his full share toward the progress and development of his adopted county.

A native of Bourbon County, Ky., our subject was born May 1, 1823, and spent his childhood in the Blue Grass State. He distinctly remembers the journey to Illinois, and that the family crossed the Ohio River at Cincinnati in October, 1830. Later they crossed the Wabash on a cold, cloudy day, and arrived at Brooks Point the latter part of the month. There was an abundance of wild game and a great many snakes, and in the spring the horizon was darkened by the smoke of prairie fires. In the waters of the Wabash were pike, suckers, perch, bass and other choice specimens of the finny tribe.

Mr. Sconce pursued his early studies in a log school-house, with its huge fireplace, the chimney outside of earth and sticks, and its one small window. The seats and desks were home-made, and the school was conducted on the subscription plan three months every winter. His father engaged in stock-raising, selling to home buyers. Our subject made three trips down the river to New Orleans with produce loaded on a flatboat or barge, which excursions he enjoyed very much, because they afforded him an opportunity of seeing the country.

Our subject was married Oct. 18, 1855, to Miss Catherine, born Aug. 1, 1837, in Burr, Tipperary Co., Ireland, to John and Mary O'Marrow, who were natives of Ireland, where the father spent his entire life. He died when his daughter, the wife of our subject, was small, and the widowed mother, with her four children, two sons and two daughters, sought a home in the United States. The date of her removal from Ireland was 1849, and three months were consumed in crossing the ocean. They settled in Xenia, Ohio, which was her home for a period of more than seven years. In 1857 she came to Georgetown, Ill., and on the 18th of October, as before mentioned, she was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with William H. Sconce. Mr. Sconce made his first purchase of land about this time—eighty acres—upon which he settled with his young wife after his marriage, and which was then uncultivated prairie. Later he purchased another eighty acres, and brought the whole to a good state of cultivation.

Seven children came to bless the union of our subject and his estimable wife, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Lucy E. L., married Charles Thompson, a prosperous farmer of Sidell Township, and they have one child—Mary C. The next daughter, Mary M. J., married Joseph Willison, and they have five children—Asil William, Norah M., Orrell G., Joseph E. and John E.; they live on a farm in Carroll Township, and are doing well. Cerro Gordo married John Cheney, and they have two children—Leslie G. and a babe named Treovie O.

they live on a farm in Carroll Township. Lilly F. married Kemp A. Catlett, a farmer and a stock-breeder of Fulton County, and they live near Fair View; they had one child—Bessie A. Luella married W. C. Layton, a farmer of Fulton County. John W. C. and Althea D. are at home with their parents.

Mr. Sconce votes the straight Republican ticket and is at present the Drain Commissioner of his township. He has served as School Director several years. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity at Georgetown, while his estimable wife has been a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1861. Their daughters Lucy and Lilly completed their studies in the Normal School at Danville, and subsequently engaged as teachers.

The parents of our subject were John L. and Lucy (Spicer) Sconce, the father a native of Nicholas County, Ky., born near North Middleton, and the mother a native of Bourbon County. They were married in the latter county, where the elder Sconce carried on farming until emigrating to Illinois, in 1830. He settled at Brooks Point, about six miles south of Danville, where he engaged in farming and was prospered. The mother died at Brooks Point in 1854, at the age of fifty-six years, leaving nine children, of whom only David and Philemon S. are living. The others were named, respectively: Minerva J., Louisa A. D., John R., Elizabeth Lucy, Martha S. and Susanna A. These are located mostly in this county.

On another page appears a fine view of the pleasant residence of Mr. and Mrs. Sconce.

WILLIAM H. GARDNER, editor and proprietor of the Rossville *Weekly Press*, Rossville, Ill., formerly of St. Joseph County, Mich., although having been only a brief time a resident of this place, has already established himself in the esteem and confidence of the citizens. He is a gentleman of ability, and of excellent family, a native of Steuben County, N. Y., and born March 15, 1830.

Hiram Gardner, the father of our subject, was born in Bristol County, R. I., whence he removed to Steuben County, N. Y., when it was a wilderness, constructed a comfortable homestead after years of industrious labor, and there spent the last years of his life. The wife of his youth was Miss Sarah Patchen, and they became the parents of two children. Both the latter are living, the brother residing at Cooper's Plains, N. Y.

The subject of this sketch grew up amid the scenes of pioneer life in the Empire State, receiving such education as the imperfect school system of that day afforded. His education was carried on mostly during the winter season, while the balance of the year he made himself useful around the homestead, manufacturing rails and shingles, driving oxen and utilizing himself in whatever manner required. When out of school he by no means neglected his books, making a practice of reading as time and opportunity presented. At the age of nineteen years he commenced teaching, and officiated thereafter as a pedagogue for a period of more than twenty years. Leaving his native State in the spring of 1856, he emigrated to Lee County, Ill., where he employed himself in farming and teaching, and became a prominent citizen in connection with educational affairs. He was twice elected Superintendent of Schools. During the war he got out timber for the United States Government, and upon one occasion seven days from the time the trees stood in the forest, a bridge was made of them spanning a river in Tennessee.

Mr. Gardner has been engaged in the newspaper work since 1866, being formerly part owner of the Grand Rapids *Democrat*. He withdrew from this to enter the office of H. N. F. Lewis, publisher of the *Western Rural*, at Chicago, and took the first order for advertising for that paper, nailing up the first office sign for it in Chicago. He conducted the affairs of this office one year, when the main office was removed from Detroit to Chicago, and Mr. Gardner became traveling correspondent and editor. Later he was connected with the *Humane Journal* for a period of eleven years. He purchased the *St. Joseph County Republican* in May, 1888, of which he took charge in the July following. It was a spicy, six-column octavo devoted to the interests of the county and Repub-

lican party, At present he is managing the affairs of the Rossville *Weekly Press* with his customary ability and tact.

The marriage of William H. Gardner and Miss Margaret Holmes was celebrated in Homer, N. Y., Dec. 31, 1855. This lady was the daughter of Amasa Holmes, of Homer, and of her union with our subject there were born two children, one of whom, Frances, became the wife of Walter Chadband, Superintendent of Rosehill Cemetery. They reside in the beautiful suburb of Roger's Park, near Chicago. Mrs. Margaret (Holmes) Gardner departed this life at her home, in Rogers Park, March 2, 1888. She was a lady highly esteemed by her acquaintances, a member in good standing of the Baptist Church, and an active Christian worker.

FRANCIS A. RICHARDSON. In addition to being a thorough and skillful farmer, this gentleman possesses mechanical genius of no mean order, is expert with tools and occupied largely as a carpenter and builder. He is remarkably industrious and energetic, never content with being idle, and operates successfully a good farm of 267 acres in Georgetown Township. He has spent his entire life in this region, having been born in Vermilion County, Ind., in what was then called Springfield, Dec. 17, 1846. The opening years of his life were spent upon the farm where he made himself useful as his size and strength permitted, and acquired his early education in the district school. In the meantime, while yet a boy, he began to use carpenter tools and in 1868 engaged as a contractor. Thereafter he superintended the building of many houses in that immediate vicinity. He also at the same time engaged in moving houses, and operated a threshing machine and a steam sawmill in Georgetown Township, this county.

When twenty-two years old Mr. Richardson was married, in 1868 to Miss Mary E., daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth (Cook) Thornton. Mrs. Richardson was born in Elwood Township, Vermilion County, and removed with her parents to Iowa when a small child. They finally returned to Vermilion County, where they are now living. They had a family of four children—Mary E., Derinda, Matilda Esther and Edom. Miss Mary remained under the parental roof, acquiring a common-school education and becoming familiar with all housewifely duties. Of her union with our subject there have also been born four children—Horace M., Harmon A., Orpheus A. and Alvia A. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson belong to the Christian Church and Mr. Richardson, politically, is a sound Republican. He has mingled very little with public affairs, simply serving as a School Director in his district six years.

The parents of our subject were Adoniram Judson and Maria (Taylor) Richardson, who were natives of New Hampshire where they were reared and married. After marriage they emigrated to Indiana, settling in the vicinity of Terre Haute and later changed their residence to Vermilion County, that State. They finally removed to Georgetown Township, where they are still living, both having arrived to the advanced age of eighty-four years. They are the parents of nine children, viz.: George T;, Mary A., deceased; Martha A;, Francis K., and William H., deceased; Sarah E., John T;, Ferona E., deceased and Francis A.

WILLIAM I. ALLEN, one of the earliest settlers of Eastern Illinois, came to the State in 1844 and to this county the year following. He settled in the vicinity of Danville, and for three years thereafter taught the village and adjoining schools. He entered land now occupied by the northwestern part of Hoopeston, but at that time a tract of uncultivated ground, over which deer, wolves, prairie chickens and other wild creatures had up to this time wandered undisturbed by man. There was not a tree or shrub in sight and the pioneer, after erecting his cabin, frequently stood in his door and counted numbers of deer, sometimes as high as sixty in one herd.

Mr. Allen came to this county a single man, but after becoming settled was married, Oct. 17, 1848,

to Miss Emily Newell. He then commenced breaking his prairie land, and in due time put up a house and barn, set out an orchard, planted hedges and proceeded with the improvements naturally suggested to one of his progressive mind and industrious habits. He occupied his farm during the summer months and in winter taught school, and studied and practiced law for a number of years. Finally he sold out to Mr. Hoopes and settled six miles west where East Lynn now stands. By entering and purchase he acquired 3,200 acres of land which was mostly devoted to grazing, although he carried on agriculture considerably. He put up three houses and effected other improvements, remaining there until after the outbreak of the Civil War. He then enlisted in Company C, 12th Illinois Infantry, which regiment was first ordered to Cairo and then to Paducah, Ky. Mr. Allen in due time was presented with a Captain's commission, but was obliged to resign on account of disability, and returned home.

Our subject now occupied his farm for a time, then purchased 500 acres in the vicinity of Rossville. A few years later he sold out once more and returned to the northern part of East Lynn, which was located on a part of the old farm, about the time the railroad was built through. In 1884 he went to Cherry County, Neb., but in 1888 returned to Hoopeston, where he still lives. He has built up for himself a good record, serving as County Treasurer two terms and the same length of time as School Commissioner. He usually votes with the Republican party, and is proud of the fact that in all his life he never cast a ballot for a Democrat.

To Mr. and Mrs. Allen there were born six children, five of whom are living, namely: Hugh A. of Holt County, Neb.; Charles A., who is represented elsewhere in this work; Mary, Mrs. Thomas Van Brunt; Emily N., who is unmarried; Clyde H. and Martha, who died in January, 1880 at the age of twenty-three years. Mrs. Emily (Newell) Allen was born in Kentucky in 1824 and came to Illinois with her parents when a small child. Newell Township was named after her father, James Newell, who was a prominent farmer and useful citizen. Our subject's father, Asaph Allen was a native of Massachusetts, but reared in Vermont and was married to Miss Sarah McCloud. They emigrated to Franklin County, Ohio, settling upon land now occupied by a part of the city of Columbus. Finally they removed over the line into Madison County, and lived until a few years ago when the father died at the age of eighty-three. The mother of Mr. Allen died while he was an infant.

WILLIAM FLEMING, editor and proprietor of the Hoopeston *Democrat*, was born in Gurnsey County, Ohio, July 2, 1846, where he spent a large portion of his boyhood, moving from there to Birds Run, Tuscarawas County, and from there to West Lafayette, Coshocton, Co., Ohio; after a residence at the latter place a number of years he went to Cadiz, Harrison, Co., Ohio, where he learned the printing business on the *Sentinel*, published by the Hon. C. N. Allen. Here, Mr. Fleming worked till the war-fever seized him. Being refused the privilege of volunteering on account of youthfulness, by Mr. Allen, his uncle, he repaired to Tod's Barracks, Columbus, Ohio, and on the 19th day of February, 1864, volunteered for the Infantry service for three years or during the war, and was assigned to Company H, 88th Ohio Infantry, and was on duty at Camp Chase, Ohio, guarding and transporting prisoners all of the term of his service. He was discharged July 3, 1865, by reason of General Order, No. 136, headquarters, Northern Department, Cincinnati, Ohio, the war being over. One month after his discharge from the army, Mr. Fleming's father died leaving a family of eight children and with no means of support. With characteristic energy that is worthy of all praise, he went to work on a railroad section at $1.50 per day, to keep his brothers and sisters together.

After three years of hard service in this line his brothers grew up, so that they could take care of themselves by the older ones working out, when Mr. Fleming returned to his trade, that of a printer, engaging in an office at Kansas City, Mo., remaining there for some time, but finally returning to

Crescent City, Iroquois Co., Ill., where he married Miss Frances Hunter, on the 26th day of March, 1874. From there he went to Hoopeston and worked for seven years and three months as foreman of the *Chronicle*. He was finally induced to take charge of the Hoopeston *Journal* and edit and publish it, which he did April 27,1882. On November 10, of the same year, he bought the plant and ran the paper until September, 3, 1885, when he sold it to a syndicate. On November 10, he flung to the breezes the Hoopeston *Independent*, which met with favor with the people. This paper he published eighteen months, when he bought the Hoopeston *Journal* and merged the two papers into the Hoopeston *Democrat*, which he still conducts with ability and energy.

By his first wife Mr. Fleming was the father of two children, one of whom is still living—Ella. His first wife died at Hoopeston, March 12, 1881. He afterward married Mrs. Alice M. Hiller *nee* Osborn, and by this union two boys were born—Leroy and Jay. Thornton Fleming, the father of William, was a merchant of West Lafayette, Ohio, and married Miss Eliza Ann Gorseline. He died at the last named place, and his wife is now living at Kearney, Neb. Mr. Fleming is conducting his paper with success, and it is looked upon as a reliable journal. His advertising patronage is good, and upon the whole he is scoring a success in his enterprise of maintaining a first-class paper at Hoopeston.

HUGH MONTGOMERY ROBINSON, of Champaign, Ill., familiarly known in Fairmount and vicinity as "Mont Robinson," while not one of the earliest settlers of this county, came here when the prairie was not considered suitable for human habitations, and the residents were mostly timber settlers, very few having yet ventured far from the woods. He was born in Darrtown, Butler Co., Ohio, Sept. 7, 1835, and came to the Wabash Valley in the spring of 1853. His father was a native of Harrisburg, Pa. and his mother was a member of the Valliant(originally Vallant, from France) family from the eastern shore of Maryland, some of whom figured conspicuously in official positions in Baltimore and other places in that State.

At the age of twenty years Mr. Robinson was married, Nov. 28, 1855 to Miss Mary Jane, a daughter of Isaac Dickason of Perrysville. For some time afterward he worked at Danville, but was deterred from moving his family to that village on account of its notoriety as a milk-sick center. Very few people moved to Danville in those days on that account. Later, Mr. Robinson ventured within three miles of the place and finally took up his residence within it. He resided there six years and in 1862 changed his residence to Sidney. In 1865 he removed to Fairmount, of which he was a resident until July, 1889. His next removal was to Champaign, in order to establish a new Democratic paper, the Champaign *Orbit*.

In the meantime, in 1882, Mr. Robinson was seized with Bright's disease and not being able to follow his trade of shoe-making, himself and his daughter, Ida, started a small paper, which they named the Fairmount *Veto*, intending only to publish this until the health of Mr. Robinson should be restored and he could return to his trade. By means of an exclusively skimmed-milk diet Mr. Robinson not only regained his health, but was even better than he had ever been before in all his life, and indeed is practically ten years younger than when he commenced this treatment. He wishes this fact recorded so that others may be benefited by the experiment.

The *Veto* became eminently successful and popular and was continued until the removal to Champaign. Miss Ida Robinson deserves especial mention for the part she has borne in making the *Veto* a signal success. In 1886, in connection with this, Miss Ida and her father established the Sidney *By-Way* and this too proved a fortunate venture. Afterward Mr. Robinson turned over the establishment to his widowed daughter, Mrs. Eva Stewart, who is conducting it singly and alone and making it a paying institution.

Mrs. Mary Jane (Dickason) Robinson was born in Fountain County, Ind., March 19, 1837. Eva, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robinson was

born in Paris, Ill., Oct. 2, 1856. Their eldest son, Hart Benton, now married and living in Sidney was born in Danville. Aug. 15, 1858; Ida was also born in Danville, May 18, 1860; Larkin Gray, the youngest, was born in Fairmount, Aug. 13, 1869. They now reside at No. 311, East Clark Street, Champaign, where they will welcome any of their old-time friends, and hope to cultivate new ones.

JOSEPH MOSS. In the career of the subject of this notice, we find an excellent example for young men just embarking in the field of active life, of what may be accomplished by a man beginning poor, but honest, prudent and industrious. Mr. Moss in early life enjoyed but few advantages. His school days were limited nor had he wealth or position to aid him in his struggle with the world. He was obliged to rely solely upon his own efforts to win for him success, and he has reason to believe that his labors both of hand and brain have not been for naught. He is now in comfortable circumstances, retired from active labor, and has a very pleasant home, comprising a well-tilled farm in Middle Fork Township.

The Moss homestead is especially noticeable on account of its modern improvements, including a fine artesian well from which flows a constant stream of water through the milk house, and to tanks in the barnyard for the accommodation of the stock and whatever other purpose required. The buildings are commodious and conveniently arranged and the farm-machinery is first-class.

Next in importance to the personal history of our subject is the record of those from whom he sprang. His paternal grandfather Moss, it is believed, was born in Germany and after his emigration to America died in one of the Eastern States. Among his sons was John, the father of our subject, who spent his early years in Ohio where he was married, and whence he came to Illinois when his son, Joseph, was four years of age. The latter was born in Preble County, Ohio. The journey to this county was made overland by teams, the party consisting of the parents of our subject with their three children, the paternal grandparents and the step-grandfather, the grandmother having died many years previously. John Moss and his step-father entered eighty acres of land in the vicinity of Georgetown, this county, where Mr. Moss established a tanyard, which he operated until the fall of 1826, when his labors were cut short by his death.

The widowed mother of our subject, Mrs. Catherine Moss, was left with three small children,—Joseph, Jesse and Elmore. They experienced many hardships and difficulties until Joseph was old enough to assist in the support of the family. When he was thirteen years old his mother was married to Mr. George Swisher, and Joseph was bound out until he should become nineteen years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Swisher became the parents of three children,—John, George and a daughter now deceased. The mother died in this county about 1841.

Young Moss, when released from his bondage at the age of nineteen years, began to paddle his own canoe and engaged as a farm laborer by the month. His honesty and industry secured him friends on every hand and in due time he was in a condition to establish a home of his own. On the 17th of April, 1845, he was married to Miss Delilah Starr, who like himself was a native of Preble County, Ohio. The young people began housekeeping in a log cabin, the chinks stopped up with mud, the fire-place laid with earth and the floor of puncheon. The chimney was built outside of earth and sticks, and a clapboard door was hung on wooden hinges closing with a wooden latch raised by a string. They occupied this domicile one summer then removed to a larger cabin but furnished pretty much in the same style. Mr. Moss after his marriage was employed for a time in a carding-mill, then began farming and finally purchased sixty acres of land near Myersville, for which he contracted to pay $350. He paid cash down $150, and eighteen months later sold the land at an advance of $50.

About 1850 Mr. Moss entered 160 acres of wild land in Middle Fork Township, located near Blue Grass Grove. He put up a small frame house, made some other improvements and lived there

until March, 1884. In that year he purchased and took possession of his present home where he has twenty-seven acres of choice land and elsewhere has 300 acres, all improved, besides property in Potomac. He has given his son, John B., eighty acres of land, thus providing him with a fine start in life. His daughter, Sarah A., is the wife of Benjamin Wise. These two are the only children of Mr. Moss. He and his estimable wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church in which Mr. Moss has held the office of Steward and Trustee. He identified himself with the church when a young man, twenty-two years of age, while Mrs. Moss has been a member since a maiden of sixteen. They have been acquainted with each other from the time when in his youth our subject assisted father Starr in the harvest field and raked hay with a hand rake.

Peter and Catherine (Hewet) Starr, the parents of Mrs. Moss were natives of North Carolina and removed to Preble County, Ohio, where they lived many years and where Mrs. Moss was born. They came to this county in in 1830 and located on land three miles west of State Line City, where they sojourned many years. After the parents had traveled the journey of life together over fifty years and were too old to be left alone, they took up their abode with our subject. Mr. Starr departed this life Feb. 20, 1862. The mother survived her husband many years, passing away April 18, 1881.

CAPT. SAMUEL FRAZIER. This honored old veteran of nearly eighty-three years, is one of the pioneers of '33, coming to this county when a young man of twenty-seven years. During the long period of fifty-six years which he has spent in Central Illinois, there has passed like a panorama before his eyes the change which has transformed the wide and houseless prairie into the homes of an intelligent and civilized people. The slow ox team of the early emigrant has given place to the hurry and dispatch of steam; three important wars have been fought, and a free people each time come off victorious; men have changed for the better in their ideas of labor and their pride in progress, and the intelligent man believes that the world is growing better in proportion to its increasing population.

The middle of September, 1833, found the subject of this sketch established on a tract of land two miles northwest of what is now Catlin, but was then a lonely prairie. His life prior to this had been spent in the Buckeye State, where he was born Sept. 13, 1806, in the Township of Hubbard, Trumbull County. When a lad of six years his father enlisted as a soldier in the war of 1812. He returned home the year following, disposed of his interests in Trumbull County, and settled at Springfield, about fifteen miles from Cincinnati. The family sojourned there four years, then removed to Dearborn County, Ind., where the father secured a tract of land, and where the subject of our sketch remained with them until a youth of eighteen years. Then, desirous of a change, he began following the river, flatboating and steamboating, and in 1824 was at Natchez, Miss., about the time of the visit of Gen. Lafayette at that place. Our subject looked upon the present great city of Cincinnati before a single pavement was laid. After the family came to this county he employed himself mostly at farming. Prior to coming to Illinois, our subject made the acquaintance of Miss Buelah Ann Finley, who was born in December, 1812, and to whom he was married March 15, 1832.

For two years after his marriage Mr. Frazier rented land over the line in Indiana, raised two crops of corn, and in the fall of 1833, purchased 200 acres of land, the product of two years' work. The spring following he moved upon it with his wife and one child, making the journey with an ox team, and being fifteen days on the road. Upon coming to this county Danville was a little town of 400 or 500 inhabitants, but it had already been made the county seat and a court-house had been built. Upon his own land was a cabin into which Mr. Frazier moved with his little family, and for two years thereafter confined his attention to the improvement of his property, breaking eighty acres, putting up a barn, and making an addition to the dwelling. He then sold out for $1,000, but

afterwards raised another crop on the same land. He moved into Danville in February, 1838, settling on Vermilion street, between Main and North streets, where he lived until purchasing property on Main street.

About 1836 our subject entered a tract of land in Champaign County, this State, which he sold two years later at a handsome price. He conducted an hotel one year, then purchased property on Main street, where he has erected a big brick block, extending from the court-house to Hazel street, and known as the Frazier Block. He lived there for twenty-five years, carrying on his hotel five years of this time. In 1840 he was elected sheriff of Vermilion County, which office he held eight years, being the third man elected to this position. Upon retiring from this he engaged in buying cattle, and made many a trip driving these through to Chicago, when the country was all open prairie.

Merchandising also formed one of the enterprises of our subject as senior member of the firm of Frazier, Lamb & Co., which continued two years. Then Mr. Lamb withdrew, and the firm became Frazier & Gessie, the latter the son-in-law of the Captain. After two years the latter assumed sole charge of the business, which he conducted probably ten years, and until the outbreak of the civil war. Strongly imbued with the Union sentiment, he then raised the first company of men in this county—Company C, which was assigned to the 12th Infantry under Col. John McArthur. Mr. Frazier was elected captain, and proceeding to Cairo, served three months, and then being no longer needed returned home with his men, and thereafter gave his attention to his business affairs.

Mrs. Buelah Ann (Finley) Frazier became the mother of twelve children, and departed this life March 25, 1864, leaving four children, the only ones remaining of that numerous family. Edward entered the army, was taken ill, returned home and died ten days afterward, at the age of nineteen years; Angeline became the wife of James H. Phillips of Danville, and is now the mother of six children; Mary F., the wife of M. A. Lapham, is a resident of Springfield, Mo., and the mother of two children; Florence, Mrs. W. W. Phillips, lives in Danville, and is the mother of four children, one of whom is dead; De Witt C. married Miss Emma Reed, and is a practicing attorney of Danville.

In 1864 Capt. Frazier disposed of his mercantile interests and purchased his present home at the corner of North and Pine streets, where he has since resided. On the 12th of April, 1865, he was married to Miss Nancy Finley, who was born Sept. 17, 1823, a sister of his first wife. The family residence is a fine large brick structure, and after standing over twenty years gives little evidence of its age. At the time of its erection it was considered one of the best in the town. The Captain cast his first presidential vote for John Quincy Adams, and was an old line Whig until the abandonment of the party by the organization of the Republicans. He was well acquainted with Abraham Lincoln, who often partook of his hospitality in the above named block while prosecuting his law business in this part of the county. Capt. Frazer reverts to those episodes with pardonable pride, and declares that Mr. Lincoln was one of the most congenial and companionable men it was ever his lot to meet.

The Captain for over half a century has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which his first wife belonged, and with which the present Mrs. Frazier is also connected. He was for many years quite active as an official and has given liberally to its support. For a number of years Capt. Frazier operated as a farmer, and is the owner of 700 acres of land near Catlin, which he has since divided up among his children. He was one of the first directors of the First National Bank, and has been interested in most of the enterprises calculated to build up the town. He constitutes one of the old landmarks, and will be kindly remembered long after he has been gathered to his fathers.

The father of our subject was Samuel Frazier, Sr., a native of Maryland, born on the eastern shore across the bay from Baltimore. He lived in that vicinity until after his marriage with Miss Mary Massey. They became the parents of nine children, six of whom lived to mature years, and of whom our subject is the only survivor, the eldest dying at the age of twenty-six. The family left Maryland in the spring of 1806, and moved

across the monntains into Ohio in a two-horse cart, all the property the elder Frazier possessed. There accompanied him six men and one woman besides his wife. He purchased a tract of timber land in Trumbull County, upon which he labored six years and worked some at his trade of shoemaking, which he had learned in his native State.

In the meantime occurred the war of 1812, and the elder Frazier joined the militia and was appointed to the rank of Major. After the surrender of Hull the Ohio militia was called out, and at the end of three months the command was mustered out. The Frazier family then moved to Dearborn County, Ind., where they resided twenty years, and upon leaving there, about 1838, came to this county. The father purchased land adjoining that now belonging to our subject, and which is still owned by one of his heirs—Mrs. Lawrence. He departed this life in 1846, and his wife died the following year. He was first a Whig, politically, and then a Republican, a man of decided ideas, and and one whose opinions were generally respected.

David Finley, father of the two Mrs. Fraziers, was born in Kentucky, Dec. 10, 1781, and was there married to Miss Nancy Miller, who was born April 14, 1787. He departed this life August 29, 1853, and his wife passed away four days prior to his decease—August 25. He had been mostly engaged in agricultural pursuits, but for a number of years was on the river, ruuning to New Orleans. His daughters, Buelah and Nancy, were born in Dearborn County, Ind., and the latter named resided with her parents until the time of their death.

BUELL TILLOTSON, a skillful, practical farmer, is quietly and prosperously carrying on his farming operations on his farm, one of the best and most highly productive of Pilot Township, very pleasantly located on section 36. He is a native of Indiana, born in Warren County, Sept. 23, 1847. His grandparents on both sides of the house were pioneers of Ohio in the early days of its settlement. His father, Ephraim Tillotson, was born in Miami County, that State, in 1811, his ancestors being of English origin, and he a descendant of the same branch of the family as that famous English divine, Archbishop Tillotson. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Mary A. Cronkhite, was also born in Miami County. After her marriage with the father of our subject they came westward to the State of Indiana and located in Warren County, and there the father died in 1884. The mother survives at an advanced age and makes her home on a farm in Vermilion County. Of her marriage twelve children were born, of whom the following eight are living: Walter, a farmer of this county married Lucetta Endicott; Madison, who lives in Louisiana, married Kate Goodwine, and they have three children; Luther, a farmer, married Mary E. Myrick, and they have five children; Wallace, a farmer of this county, married Emily French, and they have three children; Buell is our subject; Sarah married Edward Foster, of Indiana, now living in this county, and they have seven children; Rebecca married J. K. Buettz, a retired farmer of Potomac, and they have six children; Frances married Alonzo W. Knight, a farmer of this county, and they have four children: Mary married Frank Henry, a retired farmer of this county, and they have two children.

Buell Tillotson gleaned a good education in the common schools, and a practical training at home that fitted him to cope with the world when he became independent. When he first began life he did not have the wherewithal to buy the land for himself, and as he was very desirous ofcarrying on farming he rented a farm. He met with such good success in that venture that in a few years by unremitting toil and frugal economy he was enabled to lay up money enough to buy a farm of his own, and he became the possessor of one, comprising 160 acres of land of unsurpassed fertility. He now has it under good cultivation, and has made many substantial improvements that have greatly increased its value, and he has established a cozy, comfortable home for his family. He is engaged in mixed husbandry, and besides raising grain and other products common to this climate raises stock, all that his farm will carry.

Mr. Tillotson was united in marriage with Miss

Lizzie Wiles, whose parents were both natives of Denmark, but who emigrated at an early date to this county, where Mrs. Tillotson was born. The wedded life of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of two children, one alone living, a daughter, Lucetta.

Our subject is a quiet, unassuming man, with much force and decision of character, however, and his place in the community is among its best and most deserving citizens. He and his wife are worthy members of the Christian Church, as is attested by their conduct in the every-day affairs of life. Mr. Tillotson is a firm ally of the Republican party, taking an intelligent interest in political matters. He has served on several juries, and is in every way fitted to perform the duties attendant upon good citizenship.

SQUIRE STEPHEN S. SHAW. To be the founder of a town is no small honor, and next to the founder is the man who has made it the object of his fostering care. The town of Allerton is largely indebted to Mr. Shaw, who bears the honor of being the first Postmaster, for its incipient growth and development, and for the interest which he has taken in its progress and welfare. He is a man of sterling worth and integrity, the owner of a good property without being wealthy, and is possessed of those substantial and reliable traits of character which have made him a man to be depended upon in whatever he says and where assistance is needed in furthering every good and worthy enterprise.

Our subject opened his infant eyes in Jefferson County, Ky., August 17, 1848, but while a small child was taken by his parents to Vigo County, Ind., where he attended the common school, and later entered the seminary at Farmersburg, which he attended four years, completing a normal course. For the same length of time he engaged in teaching in Vigo and Parke counties. He came to Illinois in 1876 and rented a 100-acre farm in Champaign County, in company with his brother James, and where he remained four years. For some time they kept bachelor's hall, but Stephen S. finally resolved it was not good for man to be alone, and was accordingly married Jan. 21, 1881, to Miss Lucretia Ackers, in Douglas County. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw after their marriage resided for a time on a farm in Edgar County, Ill., then coming to this county settled at Allerton, soon after which Mr. Shaw was appointed Postmaster and also assumed an interest in a stock of groceries and general merchandise. Since that time his interests have centered here, and he is looked up to as one of the leading men of the place. In the spring of 1889 he was elected Justice of the Peace, and is discharging the duties of his office with his usual good judgment, giving satisfaction to the people. Politically he is a strong Democrat. The father of our subject was Temple Shaw, a native of Jefferson County, Ky., and who married Miss Elizabeth Moore, also of the Blue Grass State. Grandfather Jesse Shaw was an early settler of Kentucky, and his father came from Scotland. The Moore family flourished in Maryland. The parents of our subject moved to Indiana in 1855, where the father carried on farming successfully and became well-to-do. Both he and his excellent wife are still living and aged respectively seventy-four and sixty-six years. Mr. Shaw has served as Justice of the Peace for the long period of forty years.

Eleven children were born to the parents of our subject, the eldest of whom, Julia, is the wife of Jacob Ridgeway, her second husband and a farmer of Sullivan County, Ind. She is the mother of three children by each husband, the first one being Elijah Hauger. Eliza married H. A. Pratt, a barber of Waveland, Ind., and died childless in 1887. Alex married Miss Martha Allen, is the father of two children and operates a farm in Vigo County, Ind.; Martha married Benjamin L. Dowell, a farmer of Vigo County; they have no children. Stephen S., of this sketch, was the fifth child; James W., married Miss Plina Danes and they have one child; Alice married William Yaw, a farmer of Vigo County, Ind., and they have four children; Mollie is the wife of John Rowell of Vigo County, and they have two children; Theodore married Miss Clara Jones, is farming in Vigo County, and they have one child; Clara remains at

home with her parents; Helen became the wife of Samuel McMulin, who died on his farm in Sullivan County, Ind., and she now makes her home with her parents; she has one child.

Mrs. Shaw is the daughter of John and Susan (Kanneer) Ackers of Pennsylvania. They removed to Douglas County, Ill., at a very early day and are still living on the farm which they opened up from the wilderness, and which lies eight miles from Allerton. Mrs. Shaw was the seventh in a family of eleven children; she was born in Pennsylvania and was a mere child when her parents came to this State. Of her union with our subject there have been born four children: Russell, Charles P., Freddie (who died when an infant), and Jennie B.

Mr. Shaw is not at present engaged in any active business. The neat and shapely family residence was put up in 1887, and with its surroundings and furnishings, forms a very pleasant and attractive home. Mr. Shaw socially is a charter member of Centennial Lodge, in Philo, Campaign County, from which he was demitted, and now belongs to Broadlands. He was active in securing a dispensation from Broadlands.

ROBERT ELLIOTT is one of the men who have done much to develop the resources of this county. He owns and lives on a farm in Ross township, situated on section 7, township 23, ranges 10 and 11, which has been his home since 1868. He was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, about fourteen miles east of Zanesville, on Sept 8, 1826, his parents being Francis and Jane (Hunter) Elliott. His grandparents on both sides came from the north of Ireland, and were of the excellent old Scotch-Irish Presbyterian stock, which has given to our country many of its best citizens, possessed as they were of sturdy independence and honesty, traits which the majority of their descendants inherit in a marked degree. The paternal grandfather of the subject of this biography was also named Robert. He emigrated from Ireland many years ago, and after landing in America came direct to Muskingum County, Ohio, then considered the Far West. He and his wife settled in the densely wooded country and there literally hewed out a home in the wilderness. Years afterward Robert Elliott and one of his sons removed to Licking County, Ohio, settling on a farm near the site of the present city of Newark, and there the elder Elliott spent the remainder of his days.

Francis Elliott, father of the one of whom this biography is written, was born in Ireland, and was but a year old when his parents brought him to America. He was reared on a farm and followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. He had his share of the hard work necessary to clear the homestead farm, the country thereabout being very hilly as well as heavily wooded. He did not accompany his father to Licking County, remaining in Muskingum County until his death which occurred in 1837, when he was in the prime of life, and in a very mysterious manner. He left his house one cold and slippery morning with a bag of grain on his back, to feed his cattle. The subject of this sketch and a brother noticed an hour afterward that the cattle were not at their usual feeding place, and going out to ascertain the cause found their father on his knees by a stump, dead. It was supposed that he had stumbled and fell, breaking his neck, but as no post mortem examination was held it was impossible to determine exactly the cause of his death. He was married, in Muskingum County, to Miss Jane Hunter, who was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., her parents being also from the north of Ireland, of the same stock as her husband's family. She proved herself a noble woman, a faithful wife and devoted mother, whose memory is held in veneration by her children. After her husband's untimely death she devoted herself to rearing her family and saw them all happily married and settled, and then she herself married James Howell, an old friend and neighbor. She died in 1879, aged about sixty-seven years.

Francis and Jane Elliott had eight children. The eldest, Eliza, who was married to James Herdman, a civil engineer, died in Zanesville, Ohio, where her husband is still living; William is married to Ethelinda Carter; he is engaged in blacksmithing at

Hamilton, Mo. The next in order is Robert, James, who was married to Electa St. Clair, was a farmer living on the old homestead when he died; John is a farmer in Oregon and was married to Nancy Owensbey, who died in that State; Mary Jane is the wife of Johnson Morgan, a carpenter of Danville, Ill.; Margaret Catherine died in girlhood, and Esther is married to Edward Dunkin, a farmer of Middle Fork Township, this county.

Robert E., of whom this is written, spent his boyhood in Muskingum County, Ohio, and early learned what hard work was. He lived with his parents until he was twenty-one years old, and being then married he bought a farm of eighty acres about a mile from his old home, where he lived until his removal to Vermilion County, Ill., in 1863. His farm in Ohio was hilly and rocky, and its cultivation made extremely hard labor. Making a visit to this county in 1861 to his sister Mrs. Dunkin, who with her husband had settled here some years before, he was so much pleased with the lay of the land that here he determined to make his future home. He sold his land in the East and made the change at the time stated. His first purchase in this county was a farm of 120 acres northeast of State Line, on which he lived for four years, when he sold it and rented for two years another farm in the same neighborhood, then buying his present homestead of 160 acres, upon which he has lived continuously since. When he bought this place eighty acres of it was under partial cultivation. The outbuildings, fences, hedges, good barns, commodious two-story house 28x28, are all the result of his own labor and energy. A large part of this land was swamp and bog, the eastern eighty acres, being by many considered worthless. With thorough and careful draining and good cultivation he has not only reclaimed this land but has made of it one of the most fertile pieces of soil in this section of the county, producing fine crops. In fact he has brought every acre of his land into thorough condition, not a foot of it being waste.

Many changes have taken place since Mr. Elliott settled here and he has not only witnessed the growth and development of this part of the county, but has himself participated in it, and to accomplish this great result, has done his part. He is an industrious man both by nature and habit, and though he has reached a position where his own labor is not necessary, still his active habits will not permit him to be idle, and he is always to be found usefully employed about his place.

Mr. Elliott was married on the 14th of September 1848, to Miss Nancy Morgan, daughter of Morgan Morgan, her mother's maiden name being Nancy Sisly, and who died when her daughter was a young girl. Mrs. Elliott was born July 30, 1831, in Westmoreland County, Pa., and a few years after that date her parents emigrated to New Concord, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott have ten children, as follows. Lewis Henry, the eldest, is married to Katie Jenkins, and is a farmer in this county; Nancy Jane is the wife of Dr. D. D. Webb, of Hoopeston; Ida May is the wife of Ed Leighton, of Rossville; Carrie died unmarried at the age of twenty-two years; Edson and Elda are twins, the former assists his father on the home farm and the latter at present teaching school in Wichita, Kan.; Hubert, Morgan and Odessa are still with their father and mother, while an infant son, Johnson, second of the family, died before the removal from Ohio.

Mr. Elliott is a member of the Presbyterian Church in Rossville, of which he has for over twenty years been a Deacon. Those people who know him best are unanimous in the opinion that Robert Elliott is a thoroughly manly man. No better eulogy can be pronounced upon anyone.

MARGARET RICHARDSON is the widow of the late Joseph Richardson, a former well-known and highly esteemed pioneer of Vermilion County. This venerable lady still lives on the old homestead, on section 10, Pilot Township, owning 120 acres of it, which her husband, with her active co-operation, wrested from the wild prairies in the years of the early settlement of this part of Illinois. She has witnessed with pleasure almost the entire development of this section of the country, where she has dwelt for nearly sixty years, and has lived to see the uncul-

tivated prairie and forest land smiling with abundant harvests and the home of a prosperous and contented people.

Mrs. Richardson was born Feb. 3, 1815. She received a training in all the duties pertaining to the care of a family, and was thus enabled to act well her part in the care of her own in after years. In 1832 she was wedded to Joseph Richardson, and they soon came to establish themselves in the wilds of Vermilion County, and were thus early pioneers of this section. Mr. Richardson was a native of the State of Maryland, and when he was a mere lad, his parents removed to Washington County, Pa., and subsequently to Ohio, where the father died. The mother survived him, and coming to Illinois, her life closed in Vermilion County in 1851.

Mr. and Mrs. Richardson settled on 300 acres of wild land, purchased of the Government, and passed through the usual experiences and hardships that befall pioneers in a new country, but by perseverance they overcame every obstacle, and by indefatigable toil were enabled to build up a good home. After her husband's death Mrs. Richardson received as her share of the property the 120 acres they had jointly accumulated, and is living in peace and plenty, enjoying all the comforts of life, as she richly deserves.

Mr. Richardson's death was considered a loss to the community where he had dwelt so many years. His whole course of life won him the thorough respect and regard of all with whom he came in contact, and his reputation in his adopted township was of the highest order. In him the United Brethern Church found one of its most zealous and valued members, who ably held the various offices of the church at different times. In politics he was a firm believer in the Democratic party, and was active in its support.

In his wife Mr. Richardson found a true companion and a useful helpmate. She is a worthy member of the United Brethren Church, and her daily life has always been guided by true Christian principles, as shown by her kindly, helpful conduct towards her neighbors and others; she has won a warm place in their affections, and none know her but to respect her. The snows and frosts of seventy-four winters have whitened her head, but they have not affected her heart, and none appeal to her in vain who need her assistance or sympathy. Of the two children born to her and her husband—Mickham and William—the latter is spared to her, and with his children and grandchildren bless her declining years and make life pleasant. William, a farmer in Vermilion County, married Sarah A. Rhodes, of Defiance, Ohio, and they have four children—Joseph C., Samuel, John and Mary Ann. William's son, Samuel, a farmer in Montgomery County, Kan., married Miss Clara Smith, and they have two children, Arthur C. and Clemence E.

DANIEL RICE, the subject of this sketch, is now approaching his three score years and ten, and is afflicted with partial blindness, but he has made it the business of his life to rise above circumstances as far as possible, and gain all the comfort which men may enjoy by an upright and honest life and the endeavor to do unto others as he would be done by.

Mr. Rice came to this county in September, 1863, settling at once in Sidell Township. He is the scion of a good family, being the son of Elijah and Sarah (Rife) Rice, the former being a native of Kentucky. The paternal grandfather, William Rice, was born near Centreville, Ohio, and was the son of James Rice, a native of England. The latter was one of the earliest settlers of Centreville, and upon the anniversary of his one hundredth birthday his many descendants assembled there, and in the hilarity of the occasion the centenarian ran a race with our subject, then a boy of twelve or thirteen years, and came out ahead. He lived to the great age of one hundred and thirty years, but during the last fourteen years of his life was blind. Grandfather Rice fought in the Revolutionary War in Virginia and on the frontier with the Indians in Ohio; he lived to be nearly one hundred years old.

The parents of our subject was married in Kentucky; the mother was a native of Virginia and of English and Swiss descent. The maiden name

of her mother was Mary Muncey, a native of England. Mrs. Rice removed to Kentucky with her parents when a young lady, they settling in Lawrence County. Later they removed to Carter County and died there in 1851, at about the age of sixty-five years. The mother subsequently came to this county and lived on a farm near Fairmount until her death which occurred in 1866, when she was sixty-nine years old. All of their thirteen children —with the exception of the eldest boy—grew to mature years; nine sons and three daughters. Our subject was the fourth child and second son, and the eldest son now living.

Daniel Rice was born Oct. 24, 1820, in Lawrence County, Ky., at a time when deer, bear and other wild animals abounded in the eastern part of the State among the Cumberland Mountains. He brought down many of these with his trusty rifle, shooting one day six deer, and another day one bear with four cubs. In hunting the latter animals —the black bear—he experienced many narrow escapes as this animal is very ferocious. His opportunities for education were very limited, he attending a subscription school three months during the winter, in a log school-house with a teacher that could merely read and write. His love for fine horses was developed at an early age, and indeed the entire Rice family has been distinguished for its love of, and skill in training this noblest of all animals.

Our subject continued a member of the parental household until approaching the twenty-fifth year of his age; when he was married in August, 1845, to Miss Flora Ann Jourdan. This lady was born in Greenup County, Ky., and was eighteen years old at the time of her wedding, which took place under her father's roof. They remained residents of the Blue Grass State until after the birth of six children, then in September, 1863, came to this county. Their eldest son, William J., married Miss Martha Pratt and they have one child, a son, Carl; he is engaged as a stock buyer and shipper at Fairmount. Mary E. married G. DeHart. They settled in Kentucky where she became the mother of two children—Annie and James—and died. Albert R. U. has charge of the homestead, he married Miss Mary E. Moore, who died leaving no children; he makes a specialty of horse training and is remarably successful. James G. married Miss Faraba Jane Mugen; they have two children —Waverly W. and Robert—and live on a farm. Edward A. married Josephine Price and they reside on a farm in Sidell Township; they have three children—Charles, Mary E. and Walter. Lemuel died in infancy.

After the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Rice enlisted as a Union soldier Oct. 24, 1861, from Carter County, Ky., in Company D, 22d Kentucky Infantry, and was mustered in at Camp Swygart on the Ohio for three years, or during the war. He was under the command of George Morgan, and engaged in various skirmishes in the eastern part of Kentucky. At Ashland he was taken severely ill with measles, and for a time his life was despaired of. He was finally sent home on a furlough, but returned to his regiment at Baton Rouge in February, 1864. His health continued poor and he was obliged to accept his honorable discharge, May 10, following. This experience ended in nervous prostration and undermined his health to such an extent that he has never been the same man since.

In the meantime Mr. Rice while at home on his furlough, brought his family to this county for safety from the depredations of guerrillas. After leaving the service he went first to Arkansas with a view of looking up a location for his future home, but finally returned to his family and purchased land in this county. His first wife died and he was married to Mrs. Eliza Jane Moore, daughter of William J. and Susan (Rawlings) Robertson. The latter were natives respectively of Kentucky and Virginia, were married in Indiana and are now residents of West Virginia. Grandfather Rawlings and his wife were from Germany, while Grandfather Robertson and his wife were natives of Kentucky and of Scotch descent. Mr. Moore removed to Indiana with his family where he operated as a farmer and carpenter, and they became the parents of five children—Martha A., Eliza J., John W., Elijah R., and Catherine.

Mrs. Rice was born in Parke County, Ind., and remained with her parents until her first marriage, at the age of seventeen years, to William H. Moore

of that county. Of this union there were born five children—Mary E., Charles A., Millie S., Reuben H. and William W. The eldest daughter became the wife of Albert Rice and is deceased; Charles A., a stock man is married, has one child and lives at Colorado Springs; Millie S. is the wife of Carl Hiberger, of Wichita, Kan.; Reuben H. is a newspaper man and connected with one of the journals of Wichita; William W. remains with his mother; the daughters were teachers prior to their marriage, one of them beginning at the early age of sixteen years. Mrs. Rice is a member of the Baptist Church at Terre Haute, Ind. Mr. Rice in his political views supports the principles of the Democratic party.

JOHN M. CRIMMINS is the senior partner in the firm of Crimmins & Buchanan, livery men of Sidell. They are also proprietors of the feed and sale stable, which is operated in connection with their livery business. He is a native of Clark County, Ohio, and was born on April 15, 1858. His father, Morgan Crimmins, and mother, Ellen Eager, were natives of Ireland, where they were married in 1848. A few days after their marriage they started for America, and settled first in Greene County and eventually in Clark County, Ohio, where they followed farming and became well-to-do, although they landed in the United States, wholly without means. The mother is still living on the Crimmins' homestead in Carroll Township, about three miles east of Sidell, where they settled in 1859. Her husband died Jan. 22, 1889, aged sixty-nine years. They were the parents of five children—Robert, Honora, Jeremiah, John M. and Maggie. Robert is a grain-buyer at Hildreth Station; Honora is residing in Edgar County, Ill., and married to Samuel Stunkard, who is engaged in farming; Jeremiah is in charge of the old homestead in Carroll Township, while Maggie also resides in the same township and is the wife of Thomas Ramsey.

Mr. Crimmins was but a babe when his parents came to Illinois and has substantially lived here most of the time since. His education was acquired at the public schools, which has been supplemented by extensive reading. He remained at home until he was twenty years of age, when on Christmas, 1878, he was married to Miss Ella Stunkard, who was born and reared in Carroll Township. She is a daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Heavlin) Stunkard. Her father was a farmer and came to Vermilion County, settling in Carroll Township, where he resided until his death, which occurred when he was sixty-six years old. Her mother died at the age of sixty-three. Mr. and Mrs. Stunkard were the parents of twelve children, ten of whom are living, as follows: Joseph, Hannah, Phœbe, John, James, Jacob, Samuel, George, Ella and Sadie.

Mr. and Mrs. Crimmins are living in a quiet way and are filling their mission in the world as good neighbors. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., having been a charter member of Peace Dale Lodge No. 225. Mr. Crimmins is a firm believer in the principles advocated by the Democratic party. He is one of the rising young men of his town, highly popular and possessing great business capability. Morgan Crimmins, father of our subject, after coming to America sent money back to Ireland to pay the passage of three relatives and three friends. He located in Clark County, Ohio, and when he came to Illinois, they came with him. Some of them are still living in Vermilion.

JOSEPH WHERRY is a worthy member of the farming community of Catlin Township, and is faithfully performing his share in sustaining its prosperity. His farm on section 36 is under excellent cultivation, is capable of producing fine harvests, and compares favorably with others in the neighborhood. Mr. Wherry is a Kentuckian by birth, born in Mason County, Feb. 24, 1819, to James and Catherine (Downing) Wherry, natives of Pennsylvania. After marriage his parents had settled in Mason County, Ky., and thence they subsequently removed to Clinton County Ohio, where their last years were spent.

They were people of merit, sober-minded and industrious, and brought up the thirteen children born to them in the path of honesty and good habits.

Our subject was their seventh child, and he was a year old when they crossed the Ohio to make their home for the future in Clinton County, and there the years of his boyhood and youth were passed. At the age of eighteen he left the shelter of the parental roof to begin an independent life, and returning to his native State and county, he found employment by the year on a farm and thus engaged there nearly eleven years. During his residence in that county he contracted a matrimonial alliance with Harriet P. Barclay, April 1, 1847, and to them five children were born; namely: Catherine, Cora E., Florence B., William S. and John A.; the first three are deceased. This wife of his early years, who had been a good helpmate and a tender mother to their children, departed this life in Catlin Township, Oct 12, 1860. Mr. Wherry's second marriage took place in Catlin Township, and was to Mrs. Elsie (Brady) Burroughs, daughter of John and Roxanna Brady, and widow of Jonathan Burroughs. She was a native of Brown County, Ohio, born May 20, 1828, and when young was wedded to Jonathan Burroughs, who afterward died in Catlin Township, leaving her with two children—Mary J. and Araminta. She is the mother of two children by her present marriage, Ida and Hannah. She is a capable, kind-hearted woman, and makes her husband and children comfortable in their cozy home.

Mr. Wherry has always devoted himself to agricultural pursuits, and thinking to improve his prospects on the fertile soil of the broad prairies of this State, he came here with his family from Kentucky in 1853, locating first in McLean County, and coming to this county two years later and settling in Catlin Township. He has done well since he has been here, and his many years of toil have been productive of good results, as he has a desirable farm of 103 acres of land of exceeding fertility, on which he has made many fine improvements.

Mr. Wherry is a man of excellent character and standing in this community, and as a good citizen, and kind neighbor, and a steadfast friend is all that can be wished for. In him the Democratic party has a faithful follower. Both he and his wife are exemplary members of the Christian Church, and their daily conduct is guided by sincere religious principles.

ALBA HONEYWELL. The man who has been a witness of the great changes occurring in Illinois during the past forty years, and has given to these his intelligent and thoughtful attention, is worthy of more that a passing notice. As one of these Mr. Honeywell stands prominently among the pioneers of this region, and he has been no idler during the labors which have transformed a wild tract of country into the homes of an industrious and intelligent people. He is one of the oldest residents of the little city of Hoopeston, coming here soon after its inception, about 1871, and he has since been a resident here most of the time.

Cayuga County, N. Y., is the native place of our subject, and his birth occurred Dec. 15, 1821. When a lad of twelve years he removed with his parents into that part of Steuben now call Schuyler County, N.Y., where he first attended the common school and academy of that period, and completed his studies at Oneida Institute, near Utica, then under the presidency of the noted reformer and theologian, the Rev. Beriah Green, and later spent several years lecturing on temperance and anti-slavery, meantime contributing to the several reformatory periodicals of the day. He also occupied himself considerably as a teacher in common schools and academies, and was one of the first to actively engage in the Abolition movement. He served as a delegate to the Buffalo Convention, which nominated James G. Birney, the Liberty Party candidate for President, and subsequently read law in the office of Gilbert & Osborne, a prominent law firm of Rochester, N. Y.

During those years Mr. Honeywell made the acquaintance of many eminent men, among them Gerritt Smith, William Goodell, Alvan Stewart and others interested in the anti-slavery movement.

Upon leaving Rochester Mr. Honeywell removed to New York City, and became editor of the New York *Eagle*, and subsequently became connected with the American Anti-Slavery Society of New York City, and for four years was sub-editor of the *Anti-Slavery Standard*, until failing health compelled him to retire. During those years he made the acquaintance of Wendell Phillips, Fred Douglas, William Lloyd Garrison, James Russell Lowell, Sidney Howard Gay, and many other men of that time who, for the sake of their principles, suffered to a large extent ostracism from society. This, however, instead of discouraging either Mr. Honeywell or his compeers, still more deeply rooted their principles, and while Mr. Honeywell was called to other fields of labor, he rejoiced in the fact that the anti-slavery cause moved on and finally triumphed.

In the spring of 1853 Mr. Honeywell made his way to Iroquois County, this State, landing at LaFayette on the 14th of April from a packet-boat. The people were then talking up the Wabash Railroad. Mr. Honeywell located in Iroquois County, Ill., purchasing 1,000 acres of land in what is now Stockland Township. He lived upon this three years, effecting considerable improvement, and purchased 400 acres additional. While teaching and farming he never failed, whenever opportunity occurred, to disseminate his anti-slavery sentiments. In the spring of 1856 he started out, accompanied by his family, and traveled all through Minnesota Territory, arriving in Chicago during Fremont's campaign, and became associated with the Chicago *News* (not the *News* of to-day), and which was edited and controlled by the Republican element, which was then being brought into prominence and in which year the party was organized and named.

Mr. Honeywell spent that winter in Chicago, and in the spring of 1857 removed to Logansport, Ind., where he established himself as a manufacturer and dealer in lumber, and also taught school for several terms at that place and LaFayette. During the progress of the Civil War he was offered the appointment of Adjutant in the army, but circumstances prevented his accepting it, and in 1863 he returned to his farm in Iroquois County. He proceeded with the improvement of his land, and in the meantime became prominent in local affairs, serving as Township Supervisor each year until 1869, when he was elected County Clerk for four years, and served in this capacity until 1873. In 1871 he purchased land on the present site of Hoopeston, and at the close of his term of office removed here with his family. He assisted in laying out the town, and secured the location of the Chicago railroad to the place. It was largely through his aid that the town grew and became prosperous, being a portion of the time its Mayor. He made two subdivisions, and still controls the sale of lots. He assisted in the organization of the sugar and canning factories located here, and was connected with them until the latter became self-supporting, expending $5,000, for which he received no return.

Meantime and later Mr. Honeywell gave his attention to agricultural pursuits, having a farm of nearly 1,000 acres adjoining the city. He was one of the founders of the First National Bank of Watseka, with which he has been connected as stockholder and director for a period of twenty years. In addition to his Illinois property, he has several hundred acres of land and a fine orange grove in Florida, where he frequently spends his winters. Altogether he is the owner of about 3,000 acres of land, much of it rich and valuable, in Iroquois, Vermilion, Cook, Lake and Scott counties, Ill, and in Lake and Marion counties, Fla. Politically, until about 1884, he supported the principles of the Republican party, then identified himself with the Prohibitionists, and lives in hopes that the entire prohibition of the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors as a beverage, will ultimately be secured. He is a man of decided views and opinions, fearless in the expression of them, and while necessarily enunciating some truths distasteful to some men, is nevertheless held in universal respect.

Our subject was married April 3, 1851, in Schuyler County, N. Y., to Miss Cornelia Andrews, daughter of Dr. Anson Andrews, and they are now the parents of four children, all living and named respectively: Estella Emma, Florence Andrews, Lillian Amelia, and Sarah Eliza. The eldest

daughter is the wife of John C. Cromer, and the mother of one child, a son, Alba, named after the grandfather; Florence possesses considerable talent as an artist, teaching both portrait and landscape painting, and is otherwise quite accomplished; she remains at home with her parents. Lillian occupies the Chair of Mathematics in Hedding College, Knox Co., Ill.; Sarah is pursuing her studies at that institution.

Mrs. Honeywell was born at Sodus Bay, on Lake Ontario, in 1829, and lived there and in Yates County, N. Y., with her parents until her marriage. The father of our subject was Enoch Honeywell, who was born in Westchester County, N. Y., in 1787. He received his education mostly in that county near New York City, and upon approaching manhood engaged in the manufacture of patent wheel heads for spinning, which proved a paying enterprise. In 1816 he made his way to Indiana, and entered 160 acres of wild land, embracing the present site of the city of Terre Haute, where he established a home and lived for several years until malaria drove him away. In the meantime he engaged in farming and shipped pork, via New Orleans to New York City, going with his merchandise himself. He subsequently located in Cayuga County, N. Y., and engaged in chair making, and lived there until 1836, when he went onto a farm in Steuben County, N. Y., where he lived until his death in 1887.

Mrs. Eliza (Dye) Honeywell, the mother of our subject, was a native of Rhode Island, and the parental household included three children, of whom Alba was the eldest born. His younger brother, Gilbert, is living in Schuyler County, N. Y. Emma, the only sister, married a Mr. Fenno; and lives on the old home farm in the same county. Enoch Honeywell was a man who, under favorable circumstances, would have distinguished himself in the world of letters, being a ready writer both in prose and poetry. Our subject came honestly by his hatred of slavery and his love of temperance, having inherited the sentiments from his honored father. Our subject was at one time greatly interested in the Pittman System of Phonetic Printing and Short-Hand. He was editorially associated with Andrew and Boyle in 1848, and in the *Anglo-Saxon*, a newspaper in New York City, advocating the phonetic reform, and printed wholly in the new type advocated. He is also the author of several works, the largest of which (yet unpublished) is an exhaustive treatise on language, embracing all its departments from elementary phonetics to rhetoric and logic—in all eleven books.

The father of our subject, in addition to his other views, was directly opposed to Masonry and all secret societies. He traveled over a large portion of the United States, and although prominent as an agitator, never sought political office. In his early manhood he was a member of the Baptist Church, but becoming dissatisfied with the apathy of his church in regard to the slavery question, he left it and identified himself with the Wesleyan Methodists, remaining with them until his decease, which occurred in New York State Jan. 14, 1887, at the advanced age of ninety-nine years. He retained his faculties in a remarkable degree until the time of his decease, which was the result of an accident. He had put forth a number of pamphlets largely at his own expense, and wrote scores of newspaper articles, setting forth his convictions, which were widely distributed throughout the country. The wife and mother departed this life in 1866, when about seventy-four years old.

THEODORE LEMON, M. D., one of the pioneers of the city of Danville, was born in the village of Bunker Hill, Va., Dec. 16, 1812, and here began the study of medicine, which he completed in the cities of Baltimore, Md., and Washington, D. C. Here he turned his attention to the West and decided to locate in Danville, this county, for another brother, Joseph B., had been for a year a resident before our subject's emigration. In 1835 he made the trip from Virginia by horse and wagon in company with an uncle, the Rev. James Chenoweth, who was on his way to the West. For a year succeeding his arrival in Danville, Dr. Lemon taught school in what was then the Presbyterian Church building. He soon, however, acquired a practice in his profession which

demanded all his time and attention, often being in that day compelled to ride to a distance of fifteen or twenty miles away to see a patient. His success was assured from the very first, and he became a leading physician in this county, in which he passed a long and useful life, and in which he became widely known and highly esteemed. He ever evaded notoriety, but was called by his fellow-citizens, rather against his will, to fill several public positions. He remained a student all his life and kept abreast of all of the latest developments, not only in the profession of which he was an honored member, but he gave much time and thought to other branches of advanced studies. Especially did he take great interest in mathematics, of which exact science he was an ardent student, and in which he was regarded as an authority. He died Dec. 19, 1885, in his seventy-fourth year.

Dr. Lemon was a cousin of Hon. Ward Lamon, the friend, biographer, and counsellor of President Lincoln. The family name was originally spelled Lamon, but the people of Danville called him Lemon, and the Doctor fell into that way of spelling it, until it has now become the recognized orthography. He was a quiet and courteous gentleman, who always conducted himself with a dignity and self-respect which commanded the respect of others, and won for him hosts of sincere friends and the esteem of the entire community. During his half-century's residence in Danville Dr. Lemon had witnessed the many changes and developments which transformed it from a mere hamlet to a thriving city, and he was ever foremost in advocating all measures which he believed tended to its growth and prosperity, which he did his full share in promoting. He was one of a family of seven sons and six daughters, of whom the following yet survive: Mary E. is unmarried and is a resident of Danville; George is a farmer in Texas; Virginia D., widow of John H. Moores, lives in Oregon; R. Bruce is Judge Advocate of the Pension Departments at Washington, D. C.; Ella E. is widow of I. R. Moores, and is also a resident of Oregon, and Charles E. is a practicing physician at Fairmount, in this county. Those deceased were named respectively: Joseph B., who died in Danville; Rebecca R. was wife of Dr. Cromwell, who died in Virginia; she subsequently came to this county, where she died; James C. went to California, where he died; Ann E., who was the wife of Carlisle Turner, died in Danville; John E., who was a Union soldier, fills an unknown grave in the South, and Lucy A., who was the wife of W. T. Cunningham, died in Danville.

Sept. 14, 1848, Dr. Lemon was united in marriage with Miss Lavinia E. Sconce, who was born in Bourbon County, Ky., Jan. 20, 1828. The year following that of her birth her parents removed to Vermilion County, where her entire life since has been passed. Her father, James Sconce, was a cabinetmaker by trade and carried on a shop in Danville for many years. He and his wife, Mary, were well known to the early settlers, they themselves ranking as pioneers of Vermilion County. The first court house, a small wooden building, was erected in Danville some years after they came here, and Mrs. Lemon remembers that the few houses then comprising Danville were grouped about the square, which was then covered with hazle brush. She has since that, seen the then insignificant village become the thriving city of to-day. Her life for sixty years has been spent here, and she is now, at the age of sixty-one, calmly awaiting the summons which shall reunite her with her companion of nearly forty years. The parents of Mrs. Lemon, James and Mary Sconce, made Danville their home ever after their first settlement in that place. He died in 1857, at the age of sixty-three, and she in 1862, when nearly seventy years old. Mr. Sconce was a man of quiet, retiring disposition, and never took any part in public affairs, but was esteemed as an honest and worthy citizen.

Dr. and Mrs. Lemon were the parents of eleven children, of whom three died in infancy. None are married, and when not absent from the city on business all make their home with their widowed mother. They are named, respectively: Albert T., who is now Town Clerk of Danville; Charles V., Edward B., Theodore H., Mary L., John James, Lavinia E., and Lafayette Fay. All of the sons have adopted music as a profession, and all are performers of note, being frequently called upon

to fill engagements all over the country. Their musical predilections were derived from their maternal uncles, who were well-known musicians. The family have the entire confidence, good-will and esteem of the entire community, as well on their own account as on that of their honored father.

ARTHUR JONES, an enterprising, prosperous merchant of Catlin Village and Supervisor of the township, is one of the leading business and public men in this part of Vermilion County. Although he was born in England, the most of his life has been passed in this country, and he is thoroughly imbued with the American spirit and as loyal to the institutions of the United States as if he were to the manor born. His parents, Henry and Sarah (Hough) Jones, were born, reared and married in England, and remained in the old home till after the birth of their children, seven of whom grew to maturity. They then decided to emigrate to this country, hoping thereby to give their family a better start in life than was possible in the old country, and, with that end in view the father set sail from London in 1849, about six weeks in advance of the remaining members of the family, and after landing, made his way to this State, and, selecting Catlin Township as a desirable point to locate, he was soon joined by his wife and children. In his native land he had been a brass and gas finisher and contractor, but after coming here, he turned his attention to agriculture, which he carried on till 1856. He then entered into the mercantile business with his son Richard, without, however, abandoning his farming interests. He was a valuable citizen of this community, his enterprise materially advancing its prosperity, and his death, in November, 1862, was esteemed a public loss. His wife preceded him to that "bourne whence no traveler returns," dying in 1856.

Our subject was born in London, England, July 14, 1848, and he was a year old the very day the family set sail for this country. He grew to manhood in Catlin Township, and being a bright, apt scholar, received a substantial education, attending first the public schools, and then becoming a student at the Commercial College, at Westfield, Clark Co., Ill., where he obtained a fine business training that has been of inestimable service to him in his career as a merchant. When he left college he entered his brother Richard's store, and continued with him as a clerk till the latter's death, which occurred in October, 1875. After that he formed a partnership with his brother Frederic, and they carried on the business together two or three years, and at the expiration of that time he bought out Frederic's interest, and has since managed the business alone. He has a commodious, well-fitted up store, carries a full stock of general merchandise, and has a large and profitable trade. He also deals extensively in coal and stock, besides managing a fine farm of 160 acres.

On the 22d of January, 1870, an important event in the life of Mr. Jones occurred, as on that date he was united in marriage to Miss Emma Dickinson, daughter of William and Emma (Barker) Dickinson, natives of Lincolnshire, England. (For parental history see sketch of William Dickinson, which appears on another page of this volume.) Mrs. Jones is, like her husband, of English birth, born in Lincolnshire, Dec. 25, 1852, and she was but an infant of six or eight weeks when her parents came to this country, and therefore has known no other home. Five children have been born of the pleasant wedded life of our subject and his wife, namely: Edward A., William H., Nettie B., Cora M. and Dora B. Nettie and Cora, who were twins, are dead.

Our subject, possessing high and honorable traits of character, is classed among the most estimable and trustworthy men of the county, and his fellow-citizens, often entrusting to his wise guidance some of the most responsible offices within their gift, have found him to be an invaluable civic official, who places the interests of the public above private or party considerations. He was first elected Supervisor of Catlin Township in 1880, and served one year. In the spring of 1885 he was again called to that important position, and has acted in that capacity ever since, being re-elected in the spring of 1889. He is prominently connected with

the Vermilion County Agricultural Society, and was treasurer of that organization for several years. During Gen. Grant's administration he was appointed Postmaster of Catlin Township, and held that office thirteen years, giving general satisfaction to all without regard to party. Our subject takes an active part in politics, and is a leader among the Republicans of this section. He is identified with the A. F. & A. M. as a member of Catlin Lodge No. 285.

HIRAM MAKEMSON is the youngest of four children born to Andrew and Hannah Makemson, natives of Kentucky, where they were residents of Harrison County until 1828, when they emigrated to Illinois and settled in Newell Township, about two and one-half miles from where their son, the subject of this sketch, now resides. Mr. Andrew Makemson was a stalwart Republican, and always faithful to what he considered the best interests of his country. He and his wife were both worthy and sincerely good members of the Methodist Church, and were highly esteemed not only by their religious associates but also by the large circle of friends which their many good qualities had gathered around them. Their death was a loss to the community, and they were followed to their last resting place in Lamb's Cemetery by a large concourse of relatives and acquaintances. Mr. Makemson died in 1880, and his wife in 1889.

The subject of this sketch was born in Harrison County, Ky., April 2, 1825, hence was only three years old when his parents removed to Illinois. His youthful days were enlivened by witnessing, and when old enough participating in the various hunting parties which were made up from time to time in the neighborhood, which sometimes had for their object the providing of food for the table, and at others the dispersing of depredatory packs of wolves or roving bands of Indians, which served to make things lively for the settlers, and varied the monotony of the usual routine of farm life.

Mr. Makemson remained under the parental roof tree until he reached his majority, getting such education as the short term of the public school each year, assisted by an occasional term of subscription school, afforded, and making himself useful when out of school in whatever capacity he could be employed. On April 29th, 1852, he took to wife Miss Prudence Campbell, a charming maiden of Newell Township, where she was born Sept. 18, 1834. She was the daughter of John and Almira Campbell, natives of New York, who came to Illinois in the early days of its settlement and located in Newell Township, where they reared a family of nine children, of which Mrs. Makemson was the youngest.

Upon the return of Mr. and Mrs. Makemson from Danville, where their marriage took place, they immediately entered into possession of their present home, where they have continued to reside happily and contentedly ever since, rejoicing in the addition to their family of five children, namely: Almira D., who remains at home to comfort and cheer the parents for the absence of the other members of the family; Mary A., wife of W. W, Current; Bertha P., wife of Morton Bird, and lives in this county; Sherman T. married Miss Sadie Bird, on the 4th of November, 1886, and lives on a portion of his father's farm. Mrs. Sherman Makemson is a daughter of Moser and Polly Bird, and shares in the prosperity and excellent reputation which her husband justly enjoys as a resident of the township. They have no children. Joseph C., the youngest child, is also at home, where he assists his elder sister to drive dull care away from the old place.

Mr. Makemson owns, and with the assistance of his sons operates, an estate of 816 acres of land, all lying in Newell Township, and under good cultition. Politically, he votes with the Republican party, in whose principles he is a firm believer.

JOHN STALLINGS, dealer in drugs and medicines at Sidell, was born in Orange County, Ind., June 7, 1862. His parents, Samuel and Martha E. Stallings, were natives of Indiana; the mother is now a lady of fifty-

seven years. Ten children were born to them, nine still surviving. They are named: Charles, Belle (Mrs. Thompson), Zino, Reiley, Elzora (Mrs. Price), John, our subject; James, LeRoy, and Oscar.

John Stallings was a child of two years when his parents removed to Parke County, Ind., and in 1870 removed to Fairmount, Ill., where the father engaged in farming. Our subject went to Chicago, where he entered the Chicago College of Pharmacy at the age of twenty-one, having previously been graduated by the Business College of Ladoga, Ind. He was graduated by the Pharmaceutical College with the class of '84. He then engaged with A. C. Musselwhite, No. 50 Clark street, Chicago, and continued in his employ until 1885, when he set up a store for himself at Sidell, and has done a very satisfactory business.

The marriage of our subject and wife, Miss Grace Cornelius, daughter of John Cornelius, took place at the bride's home July 28, 1885. Mrs. Stallings is the youngest of three children born to her parents, namely: William, Lizzie, and Grace Amanda. Our subject and wife are the parents of one child, Eva Ella. Mr. Stallings has erected a fine and commodious residence on Chicago street, of this city. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., Peace Dale Lodge No. 225, of which order he is at present Treasurer. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen, Sidell Camp No. 405, and a stalwart Republican; he was appointed Postmaster April 30, 1889.

JAMES W. ORR. Among the prominent business men of Sidell is the above-named gentleman, who is a lumber and grain dealer. The former business is carried on under the firm-name of Lyons and Orr, but the grain trade is controlled solely by Mr. Orr. His father, James Orr, was born in West Virginia, and his mother, formerly Mary Ross, was a native of Greene County, Pa. For ancestry see sketch of James Orr elsewhere in this volume.

The parental family numbered four children, all boys, of whom the subject of our sketch is the third in order of birth; he was born in Coles County, Ill., April 15, 1857. When he was two years old his parents removed to Edgar County, Ohio, where the son grew up on a farm, and attended the common schools of the township. In 1885 he engaged in business at Sidell in which he has continued ever since. In 1887 Mr. Bushnell, of Hoopestown, built the largest grain elevator in the county at Sidell. Mr. Orr married Miss Eliza Todd, daughter of David and Maria Todd in 1884.

Mrs. Orr was born in Vermilion County, whither her parents moved in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Orr are the parents of one child, Edward Lisle, two years old. The wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Orr is a charter member of the I. O. O. F. Lodge No. 225, Peace Dale of Sidell, which was organized in 1886, and of which he is now serving as Vice Grand. Mr. Orr is the owner of forty acres in the addition to Sidell, south. The firm are doing a very satisfactory business as regards the lumber interests. Mr. Orr usually votes with the Democratic party, but uses his own judgment in local elections.

ZACHARIAH ROBERTSON, who resides in Newell Township, is a son of Zachariah and Elizabeth (Jones) Robertson, natives of Kentucky. Mr. Robertson, Sr., was the parent of seven children by his first wife, the mother of our subject. He was a Revolutionary War Veteran and located near Brunswick, Ill., in 1837, on the land which Dr. Henderson now owns. During his long life of ninety-four years he was associated with the Democratic party and always upheld its principles; he and his good wife were faithful and consistent members of the Baptist Church and foremost in every good work. His death took place in 1839 and that of his wife a year later.

The subject of this notice was born October 1, 1822, and passed the early years of his life in his native Kentucky, then removed with his father to Illinois and engaged in work on a farm, which occupation he followed the rest of his life. Aug. 25, 1842, he was married to Miss Abigail Starr, daugh-

ter of Peter and Catharine Starr. Mrs. Robertson was born July 4, 1824, in Preble County, Ohio, and after a life of usefulness and faithful performance of duty, was ferried over the river by the boatman pale to the beautiful land beyond, her earthly remains being laid to rest Dec. 25, 1879.

Mr. Robertson was the seventh in order of birth of a family of fifteen children, and became the father of sixteen sons and daughters. Mr. and Mrs. Robertson located on their farm in 1844, and it has continued to be the family residence ever since. Mr. Robertson procured a patent from the Government which he still holds, it having never been transferred to any other person. He owns at present 105 acres of finely improved and highly cultivated land. Being a good judge of horse flesh he has always kept a number of fine animals on his place to either trade or for use. He has always manifested a deep interest in educational matters and has filled the office of School Director for many years. In political life he sustains the principles of the Democratic party. The Methodist Church and Granger Lodge are pleased to number him among their most useful and influential members.

JAMES STEELE CATHERWOOD is the present postmaster of Hoopeston, taking charge of that office April 25, 1885. Hoopeston and Danville are the only two presidential offices in Vermilion County. He is engaged in life and fire insurance, and does a general collecting business in connection with the firm of Allen & Catherwood, the former being a representative in the Legislature from this district.

Mr. Catherwood was born in Belmont County, Ohio, April 12, 1845, and when a child not a year old, removed into Guernsey County, Ohio, where his father engaged in farming. The family resided there until James was twelve years of age, when they removed to Shelby County, Ill. Here he remained engaged on the farm until 1859, when he removed to Christian County, Ill., where he received his education at the common schools. He enlisted April 7, in the 145th Illinois Infantry. This regiment served in the western army under Rosecrans, and was at Raleigh, Mo., from April until September, when it was mustered out of the service. After coming of age, he attended school at Mount Zion, and then going to Pennsylvania, attended school at Concord Hill Academy. After leaving this institution, he came back to Illinois, and engaged as a clerk in a store for a year with his older brother at Stonington. In August, 1869, he went to Kansas, where he was engaged in the stock business, being four years in Salem, one in McPherson and two in Ellsworth. He and his brother worked in this manner, keeping ahead of civilization, where their stock could feed, and in the winter time retracing their steps to where they could procure food for their animals. They continued in this business for five years, their herd averaging from 1,200 to 1,500 head many times, the enterprise being financially a success, until the last year of their operation, when they lost about $6,000 by reason of an unusual panic in the business. In 1874 they sold out, and James came to Indianapolis, and engaged as a commercial traveler for a firm of that city, following this business for three years and traveling in the States of Illinois and Indiana, and occasionally in Ohio. In September, 1877, Mr. Catherwood removed to Howard County, Ind., and engaged in the general merchandise business at Fairfield. Here on the 26th day of December of the same year, he married Miss Mary Hartwell. In December, 1879, he again took up his residence in Indianapolis, and engaged in the retail grocery business, which was successful, and in 1882 he came to Hoopeston, and engaged in the grain business until he was appointed postmaster. Mr. Catherwood, from its inception, has been Secretary of the North Vermilion Loan Association, and has filled the difficult duties of that office with rare ability and fidelity.

Mrs. Catherwood was born on Dec. 16, 1847, and was the daughter of Dr. Hartwell, who died when she was nine years of age. She spent the early part of her life in Ohio. She received a finished education, and after coming to Danville, began literary work. Her first labors in that direction were for Lippincott. She wrote for this house for several years, when she turned her attention to

juvenile literature, writing for the *St. Nicholas* and Harper's *Bazar*. Her first story for the *Century Magazine* was the immensely popular "Romance of Dollard." She has written several popular books, including "Rocky Fork," "The Dogberry Bunch," "Old Caravan Days," "The Bells of Ste. Anne," all of which were juveniles; and two historical romances, "The Romance of Dollard," and "The Story of Tonty."

Dr. Marcus Hartwell, father of Mrs. Catherwood, was born Oct. 13, 1821, and died on Jan. 27, 1857. He received his early education at Worthington College, and after leaving school took up the study of medicine at Columbus, Ohio. He practiced in that State for two or three years, when, in 1854, he removed to Milford, Ill., and there he remained practicing his profession until his death. He married Miss Phœbe Thompson in Fairfield County, Dec. 21, 1846. The result of this union was seven children, of whom only three lived to mature age. Mrs. Catherwood is the oldest child; Roxanna, now Mrs. Smith, is living near Portland, Ore., where her brother, Marcus, also resides. Mrs. Hartwell died on Feb. 3, 1858, aged thirty-three years. Dr. Hartwell affiliated with the Republican party, having voted for John C. Fremont.

Mr. and Mrs. Catherwood are the parents of but one child, a daughter, named Hazel. He is an active worker in the Democratic party, but has never been a political aspirant. He organized the first Democratic club in Hoopeston, and through the influence of Gen. Black of Danville, was appointed postmaster, which position he has filled to the entire satisfaction of all the patrons of the office. His commission will expire in January, 1890.

THOMAS ARMSTRONG. It is usually safe to judge of a man's character by what he has accomplished, both as a financier and a member of the community. We find Mr. Armstrong occupying one of the most beautiful farms in Ross Township, where he has a choice body of land well drained and very productive; indeed, it stands second to none in this part of the county and has been brought to its present condition solely by the unflagging industry of its proprietor. Mr. Anderson labored early and late during the first years of his residence upon it, expending a large amount of time and money, and is now enjoying ample returns. At the same time, while having extensive interests of his own to look after, he has distinguished himself as liberal-minded and public-spirited, encouraging the enterprises calculated for the best good of the people around him and keeping himself well posted upon matters of national interest. During the progress of the Civil War he took an active part in raising funds to prosecute the struggle for union and liberty, and this in itself is a lasting honor to his name.

In looking at the antecedents of our subject we find that he springs from an excellent family, being the son of Robert Armstrong, the son of James Armstrong, who was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., and when a young man emigrated to Kentucky. A few years later he pushed on into Ohio, settling in Chillicothe, where he employed himself considerably as a carpenter and assisted in the erection of the first house built in that city. He also operated as a surveyor and was one of the Commissioners who located the city of Columbus and assisted in the laying out of the town. He was recognized as a useful and intelligent citizen, and after filling other positions of trust and responsibility, was elected Associate Judge of one of the courts and is still remembered by his grandson as making a dignified appearance on the bench.

The parents of Grandfather Armstrong were buried three miles north of Chillicothe on the old Armstrong farm. Grandmother Armstrong and her children were at one time captured by the Indians and held prisoners three years, this being prior to the birth of her son James. Her husband had gone to the mill and upon returning he found his house burned to the groud and his wife and four children missing. Grandmother Armstrong finally made her escape and walked the whole distance of about 500 miles to her home in Pennsylvania, where she and her husband were reunited. After the birth of their son James, the grandfather of our subject, the family removed to Kentucky,

and in company with a party of six men went up the Ohio and Sciota rivers in a keel boat to Chillicothe, where the grandparents spent their last days.

It is believed that Grandfather James Armstrong was married in Westmoreland County, Pa. His wife was Nancy Fulton, a near relative of Robert Fulton, the inventor of the steamboat. They became the parents of seven children, namely: John, Robert, the father of our subject, James, Jr., Jane, Maria, Eliza and Rachel, all of whom are now deceased. The great-grandfather was born in England and emigrated to America at an early date. The Fulton family was of Irish ancestry. Robert Armstrong was born in Ross County, Ohio, in 1801, on the old farm three miles north of Chillicothe and was there reared to manhood. He married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Rhoda Earl, in 1824. The young people soon afterward removed to Madison County, that State, and settled upon a farm. There were born to them ten children, the eldest of whom, Fulton, is now the owner of the old homestead; Thomas, our subject, was the second child; Maria married Edward Cowling, and died in Ohio; Albert came to this county, and died in 1853; Robert is a resident of Missouri; Elizabeth married John McMillen, and lives in Kansas City, Mo.; William is a resident of Bloomington, Ill.; James lives in Henry County, Mo.; John F. is in Livingston County, this State; Mary J. married Riley McMillen, and lives in Henry County, Mo.

Mrs. Elizabeth (Earl) Armstrong, the mother of our subject, departed this life while a young woman, in 1844, and was buried at London, Ohio; the father survived for a period of twenty-two years, dying in 1866. Thomas, our subject, was born April 18, 1826, and reared in Madison County, Ohio. In 1848 he made his way to this State and settled in Hancock County, where he lived two years, and upon his removal thence came to this county. Here he formed the acquaintance of Miss Nancy Smith, daughter of William Smith, to whom he was married August 24, 1850. They have four children living, the eldest of whom, Isabelle, was first married to Calvin Lamb, in March, 1878. He died, and she was then married to James Alison, in March, 1888; they are living at Armstrong, this county. Thomas J., James L. and Catherine M., Mrs. Charles A. Baker, remain upon the homestead. The deceased are, Mary, who died in the fourteenth year of her age, and an infant son who died unnamed; the wife and mother departed this life, Nov. 27, 1878.

Our subject was soon recognized as a valued addition to the community of Ross Township and was tendered from time to time nearly all the local offices. He, however, had about all he could attend to in the management of his farm, and simply discharged the duties of Tax Collector for a number of years, declining other responsibilities. He is one of the most extensive land-owners in the county, having in his home farm 1,546 acres, in a high state of cultivation. He came to this county with a capital of $1,500 given him by his father, and aside from the farm mentioned has 775 acres, upon a part of which the village of Armstrong, in Middle Fork Township, is now located. For the last few years he has been largely interested in live-stock, mainly cattle and swine. On his home farm are five tenement houses besides his own private residence, which is beautifully situated about forty rods from the road, with a handsome drive and a beautiful lawn with shrubbery and ornamental trees. The graded road which leads from his house to the village of Rossville, about one mile distant, is the result of his enterprise.

Mrs. Armstrong was a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics our subject is an ardent Republican. No man has done more in the building up of his township than he. He put up the first two houses in the village of Rossville, the site of which was donated by Alvin Gilbert and Joseph Satterthwaite, in 1858. That first house is still standing, but the other was removed a few years ago. Upon the farm of our subject is a tile factory, from which Mr. Armstrong has manufactured $15,000 worth of tiling, the most of which has been used in the drainage of his home farm, while on his other farm he has laid $10,000 worth.

On the 26th of September, 1864, at a meeting held in Rossville a committee was formed to solicit funds for the prosecution of the Union cause.

Alvin Gilbert was chosen Chairman and Mr. Armstrong one of the members. The committee raised by subscription in Ross and Grant townships the sum of $7,768.50, and Mr. Gilbert gave his check for enough to swell the amount to $8,000. We give below the names of contributors and the amount they thus donated, and which is sufficient comment upon the spirit of that time and place:

Alvin Gilbert	$60	Simon Bennett	30	D. F. Baker	30
S. D. Thompson	30	S. W. Gatches	30	Philip Holmes	30
T. R. Bicknel	30	William Edwards	30	G. C. Davis	30
Miller Finley	50	V. R. Boardman	30	Daniel Knight	30
L. S. Metcalf	30	J. R. Hoover	30	W. A. Boardman	20
Thomas Armstrong	60	Davis Pervines	30	James Dayton	30
Abram Mann	90	James H. Petty	30	A. H. Grenana	30
John Mann	90	W. H. Compton	30	W. D. Hanley	30
Richard Bicknell	30	Edward Fisher	30	A. M. Davis	30
James B. Davis	30	S. V. Davison	30	George Inglas	30
J. J. Davison	30	James R. Crandal	30	John Davidson	30
Z. B. Holliway	30	Johnson Henderson	30	W. W. Harris	30
Perry Cossatt	30	James Conel	30	E. F. Yates	30
William Sperry	30	Henry Boyd	30	Brien Carter	30
H. Cossett	30	Isaac Cruder	30	Jacob Dale	30
Hugh McGrannahan	30	William I. Allen	30	O. P. Stufflebeam	30
William Anderson	10	Thomas Campbell	30	Miles Stufflebeam	30
J. H. Fairchilds	5	John Yates	30	George A. Collins	30
William H. Martin	30	John Litle	30	Henry Calarsttern	30
John Martin	30	Chancy Dayton	30	Isaac Dale	30
Curtis Elliott	5	George R. Messic	30	Josiah Rivens	30
Charles Havanna	30	John Putnam	30	James M. Lane	30
John D. Collet	30	Al Davis	30	Andrew Lane	30
Thomas Smith	30	Frank May	30	Joseph Lane	30
James Haas	30	Ephraim Edwards	30	Enoch Watkins	30
John Cork	30	Samuel Merchant	30	Henry Conner	30
Wesley Swisher	30	John Bivens	30	Isaac Clapp	30
Elijah Hale	30	John Smith	30	William Kight	30
Thomas Edward	30	W. D. Foulke	30	John Holmes	30
William Harrison	30	Andrew Kerr	30	Ed Foster	30
Fulton Armstrong	40	William Ludlow	30	J. W. McKibben	30
E. S. Towersen	30	William York	30	William H. Collins	30
Fred Grooms	30	L. M. Thompson	30	John W. Collins	30
R. B. Ray	30	John Sines	30	M. M. Allison	30
William Pilkerton	30	Thomas McKibben	25	E. McElhaney	30
Thomas Williams	30	Van B. Hass	30	John Ellwell	30
James Carter	30	Bennet B. Crook	30	J. J. Grant	30
Parker Satterwhite	30	J. R. Stewart	10	S. Andrews	30
J. A. Bradley	30	C. O. Davis	30	Lemuel S. Bigges	30
Wesley T. Harris	30	John Ellison	30	William P. Hanah	30
Samuel Thomas	30	Harry Brown	30	J. W. McTagget	30
George Steely	30	William Ross	30	John A. Clapp	30
Mahlon Lewen	30	Jacob Bottroff	30	William Salmons	30
George Ruth	30	William Vining	30	J. H. Johnston	30
William Smith	30	R. Pendergrass	30	F. A. Randolph	30
Frederick Tilton	30	Henry Dayton	30	Enoch Bullock	30
John S. Townsend	30	Watts Finley	30	Bernard Pullers	30
Abel Tilton	30	E. B. Jenkins	30	Thomas J. Jones	30
Samuel Bennett	30	John Bridgeman	30	J. J. Jones	30

There were a few more whose names are not herein mentioned and whose contributions were obtained on the second round, nearly every one of whom gave as much more as is mentioned in the foregoing list, until the desired sum was raised to clear the township from a draft. Prior to this there had been raised about $5,000 in the township in the way of bounties.

Mr. Armstrong has always taken an active part in the support of the schools and churches of Rossville and all the other measures calculated for the advancement of the people, socially, morally and financially. He controls the operations of his farm, hiring the men who live in his houses for cash and each one paying his rent in the same way. The work is let out by the job, and accordingly the man who works the hardest makes the most money. The plowing is done by the acre, the corn cultivated in the same manner and gathered by the bushel. Each man furnishes his own team and implements. Mr. Armstrong pays for breaking, $1 per acre; cutting of corn-stalks, 15 cents per acre; harrowing, 15 cents per acre; planting, 17 cents per acre; cultivating, 35 cents per acre for each time gone over. Mr. Armstrong determines as to the time and manner in which all the work shall be done. This simple method of transacting business is at once understood by all concerned and settlements are made without any trouble. The career of Mr. Armstrong has been from the start distinguished by this systematic manner of transacting business, and thus he knows at all times how he is standing financially.

GEORGE D. HUFFMAN. To most minds there is something very praiseworthy in not only the accumulation of property, but in transmitting that property from one generation to another; and almost invariably the homestead which remains with one family is regarded by the people as something possessing more than ordinary interest and value. The subject of this notice owns and occupies the old homestead of his father, which was built up by the latter from a tract of wild, uncultivated land, and which now stands as an illustration of what persevering industry and determination may accomplish. The Huffman family are widely and favorably known in their community, and represent its best elements.

The subject of this sketch was born in Harrison County, Ky., May 14, 1829, and was brought by his parents to Illinois when a child four years of age. He is the son of Daniel P. and Elizabeth Huffman, who left the Blue Grass State in the fall of 1832, and coming to this county, settled in Newell Township, not far from the present site of the family residence. The father only lived four years thereafter, his decease taking place in 1836. The mother survived her husband twenty-one years, dying in 1857. There being no burying ground within ten miles, the remains of the parents were laid to rest in a pleasant spot on the farm, a few yards from the present residence, and a fine monument marks the spot. The father's first purchase was 169 acres of land, and the property has never changed hands except to pass from father to son.

Our subject, after the death of his father, was at an early age invested with much responsibility, and remained the main stay and support of his mother until her death. The farm was mostly developed by him, and was literally transformed from a wilderness to a valuable homestead. In his boyhood he attended the subscription school two winters, and this comprised the greater part of his education. He has, however, been a reader, and keeps himself well informed upon matters of general interest. He put up the comfortable house in which he now lives, and added all the other improvements which have combined to made a valuable estate.

Mr. Huffman has been a man quite prominent in his community, serving as Road Commissioner six years, and has been a school Director in his district for a period of thirty years. He has taken a particular interest in education, believing that the young should be given all the advantages which will fit them for honest and intelligent citizens. In politics he is a sound Democrat, and in religious matters is a member of the Christian Church.

The 18th of September, 1865, was a day memorable in the life of our subject, made so by his marriage with Miss Mary, daughter of John and

Elizabeth Cox. This lady removed with her parents from Ohio to Indiana, and after a comparatively brief sojourn there they came to this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Huffman there have been born seven children, the two eldest of whom John F. and Daniel P. died at the age of sixteen months. George D. died when three months old; Emily J. is the wife of John F. Grider; Mary E. married Charles Richie; Edna A. died when three years old; Effie M. remains at home with her parents. All of the deceased children were buried in the family cemetery, and beautiful stones mark the spot.

DENNIS H. ROUSE. Pleasant is the task of the biographer when employed in recounting the life and history of those who, bravely enduring the hardships and privations of pioneer life in western wilds, have by laborious industry and sagacious management of affairs, secured a competence for their declining years, together with the respect and confidence of their fellow-citizens. Such a career is the one now given us to contemplate, and thus it began: To Reason and Martha (Olehy) Rouse, of Scioto County, Ohio, Feb. 14, 1828, was born a son, our subject. His father is thought to have been born in Delaware, as it is known that his grandfather, Solomon Rouse, supposed from the best information at hand to have been a native of England, removed in 1815 from Delaware to Ohio. He was an early settler in the Scioto Valley, where he bought a tract of timber land and improved it as a farm, spending thereon the remainder of his life. Here his son Reason grew up and married, his bride being a native of Frederic County, Va. She was a daughter of Dennis Olehy, who was born in Ireland, near Kilkenny, and coming to America in 1790, settled in that county, and lived there until his death. In 1831 Mr. Rouse sold out his interest in Ohio and prepared to remove with his family to Illinois. Just on the eve of their intended departure he sickened and died. Two weeks later Mrs. Rouse started with her six children and made the entire journey with teams, driving the stock before them. At that time this part of the country was but sparsely populated, the land being yet owned by the Government, the settlers selecting the timber along the streams. Mrs. Rouse bought eighty acres of forest covered land, two and one-half miles from the present site of the court-house in Danville. The family spent the winter in a vacant log cabin near by. Before the close of the season the mother was taken ill, and in April, 1832, she died. After that sad event five of the orphan children returned to Ohio, and resided for the next three years with uncles and aunts, at the end of that time coming back to Illinois. Our subject was taken into the family of his uncle, Dennis Olehy, in this county, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Here he remained until he attained the age of nineteen years. The log house in which he received his first schooling was a most primitive structure, window glasses being conspicuously absent, a piece of paper, smeared with grease, inserted in an aperture made by taking out a piece of a log, admitting the light somewhat dimly. Benches for seats were made of split poles fitted with wooden legs. When not in school young Rouse worked with his uncle on the farm, improving the land. He distinctly remembers being sent out frequently in early spring to drive deer from the wheat field. Wild turkeys were common, so that the tables of our pioneers can hardly have lacked for game. For many years LaFayette, Ind., was the nearest market. A great deal of produce was taken on flatboats to New Orleans. The boats were built on the Vermilion River, floated down that stream and the Wabash to the Ohio and Mississippi. At nineteen our subject took a new start in life by working out at $7 a month, continuing this for the next three years. He then hired land and cultivated for five years. In this way he acquired means which enabled him to obtain a farm for himself. He bought eighty acres of wild prairie land in Catlin Township for $4 an acre. On this he built a frame house, in which he lived with his family until 1889, when he left the farm in charge of his son Reason, and moved with the other members of his household into Danville, where he now resides.

On the 30th of October, 1850, took place the

marriage of Dennis Rouse and Louisa Olehy, of Scioto County, Ohio. Two children were the fruit of this union—Reason A. and Dennis A. Reason married Feb. 20, 1889, Dolly J. Stewart, and lives on the home farm near Catlin. Mrs. Rouse was a daughter of John and Mary (Ritter) Olehy, of Scioto County, Ohio. A virtuous woman, looking well to the ways of her household, she has materially aided her husband in the building of their common fortune.

Mr. Rouse has met with more than ordinary success in the prosecution of his calling, and has continued to add at intervals to his original purchase until he is now the owner of 1,090 acres of well-improved farm land, besides his city property. Having begun life a poor boy with two strong hands, a stout heart, and little more, he may point to his possessions with pardonable pride as the rich result of self-denying toil. A pioneer farmer, one who has taken the lead in reclaiming the wilderness, causing hitherto untilled soil to laugh with the harvest, is a public benefactor. His estate is more honorable than that of the lucky speculator in Wall Street. Laboring not for selfish ends alone, he has the satisfaction of knowing that he has materially increased the sum of the world's wealth, and has so far made it practically a better world to live in.

BERIAH HAWORTH resides on section 14, range 12, Elwood Township, Vermilion County, near the place where he was born, Sept. 15, 1847. The father of Beriah was named David, who is now deceased. Our subject was educated in Vermilion Grove Seminary, and has always followed farming as his occupation, and has lived in this township on his present farm as long as he can remember.

Our subject was united in marriage with Miss Anna Lewis (Oct. 30, 1879), daughter of William Lewis (deceased) a pioneer of Crab Apple Grove, just across the line in Edgar County, Ill., but has lived mostly in this county. Three children have come to brighten the home of our subject, named respectively: Carrie M., born Sept. 13, 1882; Homer, Oct. 12, 1884; and Mary, Dec. 6, 1888.

Mr. Haworth owns a farm of seventy-five acres of good land, and in connection with his agricultural pursuits is engaged in stock-raising. His favorites are the Clydesdale and Morgan horses, Short-horn cattle and Poland-China swine.

Our subject and his estimable wife are devoted members of the Quaker Church. Mr. Haworth, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket, but has carefully refrained from the cares and responsibilities of office, preferring to give his time and attention to his farming interests.

THOMAS PRATT. This gentleman is a successful farmer and stock-grower, and stands among the leading agriculturists of Catlin Township. He is a native-born citizen of Vermilion County; the most of his life has been passed within its limits, and he is one of the many who have furthered its progress in various directions, till it stands in the foremost rank among its sister counties in this part of Illinois. He and his family are living on the old Sandusky homestead, on section 3, one of the pleasantest and most desirable estates in the vicinity, which he purchased some years ago, and has since greatly increased its value. It comprises 240 acres of land of exceeding fertility, well adapted to general farming, to which Mr. Pratt devotes it. He has been extensively engaged in buying and shipping stock of all kinds, and now makes a specialty of raising Short-horn cattle. Our subject owns, besides his homestead, seventy-three acres of fine land.

Mr. Pratt comes of sturdy Indiana stock, his father, Jonathan Pratt, and his mother, Nancy (Stevens) Pratt, both being natives of that State the former being born in Ripley County, and the latter in Jasper County. They met and were married at Danville, in this county, and were among the earliest settlers of this portion of the State. They began their wedded life at Brook's Point, but subsequently removed from there into the Big Vermilion River district, and while living there,

Mr. Pratt enlisted in the Rangers soon after the Black Hawk War. He had served nearly a year, proving to be a fearless, efficient soldier, when he died of cholera, near Galena, within six days of the expiration of his term of service. The mother afterward married John McCarty, and removing to the vicinity of Westville, spent her last days there.

Our subject was the youngest of the two children born to his parents, a girl and a boy, and his birth took place Nov. 6, 1831, at what was then known as Brook's Point. He was reared to manhood in that place and in the vicinity of the Big Vermilion River, and received as good schooling as was obtainable in those pioneer days. At one time he was engaged for a year in the butchering business in Danville, and was also interested in a market in that city. He subsequently went to Westville, in Georgetown Township, this county, and was engaged in buying and shipping grain from that point the ensuing five years. For about fifteen years he was engaged in buying and shipping stock of all kinds in connection with farming. He continued to reside in Georgetown Township with his family till the spring of 1880, when he removed with them to this township, having purchased the old Sandusky farm, as before mentioned. He has his land under admirable tillage, has a good class of neat and conveniently arranged buildings, and a home replete with all the comforts that add so largely to the enjoyment of life.

Mr. Pratt was first married at Brook's Point, Feb. 26, 1851, to Miss Nancy Scott, who was born in that place Jan. 23, 1829. There her life was brought to a peaceful close ere it had fairly reached its meridian, and she fell into that sleep that knows no waking, Dec. 5, 1870. Eight children were born of her marriage with our subject, as follows: Laura, wife of J. B. Clayton; Jonathan, who married Agnes Cherington; Margaret, the wife of Wesley Thompson; Vista, the wife of M. D. Hutsonpillar; Henry C.; Mary E., the wife of Clay Sandusky; Charles H.; and Lewis. May 20, 1871, Mr. Pratt was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Clayton, his present wife. She is a native of Ohio, a daughter of Jonathan C. and Esther (Snyder) Clayton, the former a native of Virginia, the latter of Ohio. They came to Vermilion County from Ohio in 1854, when Mrs. Pratt was a child of nine years, and they spent their last years in Georgetown Township. They had nine children, six daughters and three sons. Mary E. being the seventh in order of birth. She was born in Licking County, Ohio, Aug. 19, 1845. Her union with our subject has been blessed to them by the birth of two children, Esther N. and Thomas C.

Mr. Pratt is a man of strong, decisive character, has a well-balanced mind, and is quite capable of thinking and acting for himself, and especially is this true in regard to his political convictions, and he is a firm advocate of the Democrat policy in the management of national affairs. He bears an unsullied reputation, and is considered in every way a desirable acquisition to the citizenship of this community.

MISS SARAH WEBSTER is the daughter of Reuben and Elizabeth (White) Webster, natives of Indiana and Ohio respectively; they eloped and were married in the former State and after a short stay returned home and were forgiven. The father farmed in Greene County, Ohio, for some time, when he went to visit a brother in Indiana, where he suddenly died at the age of about fifty-six; he was a devoted member of the Baptist Church, in which faith he died. The mother is still living in Dayton, Ohio; she is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The father agreed with the rest of the celebrated Webster family of which he was a member, and was in politics a strong anti-slavery man, a Whig and a Republican. Seven children resulted from the union of the elder Webster and wife, named as follows: Nancy A., Sarah, our subject, John, Minerva, Adelaide; Matilda died at the age of seventeen; and George, who died, when seven years old. Nancy married Mr. Ethan Cross, in Greene County, Ohio. They came to Illinois and settled in Vermilion County, Sidell Township, where Mrs. Cross died and was soon followed by her husband; they had six children. John enlisted in the army at the age of twenty-three, and was killed in the first act

ive engagement in which he participated; Minerva became the wife of William Mullen and resides in Sidell Township on a farm; Adelaide is at home in Dayton, Ohio.

The families of the Sidells' and the Websters' had lived neighbors in Ohio for some time, and a strong affection grew up between the two mistresses. Mrs. Sidell having no girls, our subject then a child of eight years, was by mutual consent adopted into the Sidell family, and was a lady of twenty-two years of age, when John Sidell, the cattle king of Illinois, removed to the township which later bore his name. Mrs. Sidell died in Ohio, and Mr. Sidell was a second time married, his wife dying a few years after coming to this State, leaving three children. Our subject continued to be the mistress of the Sidell mansion until the death of the owner, which occurred in Jan. 1889. She has, therefore, been almost a mother to the children by the second marriage.

Miss Webster is very prominent in the religious and social circles of Sidell, being President of the Ladies Aid Society and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She is also prominently identified with the Methodist Episcopal Sunday-school of Sidell.

GEORGE W. SMITH, one of the worthy and representative citizens of Elwood Township is residing on section 18. He is a native of Washington County, East Tenn., where he was born, Sept. 27, 1819. His father, Jesse Smith, was a native of Virginia, having been born near Winchester in 1794. He followed the occupation of a tanner and farmer and migrated to Tennessee when a boy. Thence he came in 1832 to this county and settled on section 18 which afterward became the property of our subject. Upon his settling here the land was in its primitive condition; Indians were numerous; deer, turkeys and thousands of prairie chickens could be had for the shooting. Mr. Smith's entry of land consisted of 160 acres and which was subsequently added to by the purchase of many more acres. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Mary Carriger, was the daughter of Michael Carriger, now deceased. She was one of a family of seven children, five of whom are living, namely: William, John, Isaac, and Elizabeth, now Mrs. Baum.

Our subject received a limited education in the subscription school held in a log cabin with its slab seats, wall desks, etc. This early training was supplemented by attendance at the schools in Georgetown, and Vermilion Grove which education fitted him the better for coping with life's difficulties when he should launch out for himself. Our subject chose farming and stock raising for his occupation and has had no reason to regret his choice. In those early days there were no steam cars rushing over the country and emigrants came in wagons bringing their few household effects along with them. In order to find a market for their stock they had to drive them to Wisconsin. Pork sold for $1.50 per hundred and good cows for $10. They also hauled produce to Chicago and our subject often drove a team to and from that now great city, and on the return trip loaded his wagon with salt. Upon his first trip to Chicago, that city was about the size of Ridge Farm at the present time. (1889.)

On the 15th day of January, 1852, our subject took a very important step in his life, namely his marriage to Elizabeth Hester. Mrs. Smith's father, John Hester, was a pioneer of Tazewell County, this State. Mrs. Smith was born in that county and by her union with our subject has become the mother of six children, who bear the names of Mary J., Francis P., Amanda, Isaac, Perry and Della. Mrs. Smith passed from earth Feb. 1, 1888. Both our subject and his wife have for many years been active and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Ridge Farm.

Mr. Smith holds a leading position among the citizens of his township and is one of its representative farmers, owning 1,236 acres of land. This he has divided among his children, reserving eighty acres for himself. During the early settlement of the county, our subject sold a cow to George Gebhart for $9 and took his pay in rail making at forty cents per 100. Soon after the State road was laid out, our subject, his father and brother secured six yoke of oxen and a team of horses and plowed

the furrows in order to locate a track from Elwood to Chrisman. This undertaking required all day and they received from Amos Williams, the contractor, $5. The many friends of Mr. Smith recognize in him such character and personal worth as entitles him to a position among the representative citizens of the county.

JAMES F. HULL, M. D., followed his profession in Indianola for twenty-one years, but retired from its active pursuits several years ago and now lives in the quiet enjoyment of his modest income at his comfortable home in the above named city. He is a native of Ross County, Ohio, and is a son of Daniel Hull, who was brought by his parents to that county from the East, while in his early childhood. The father of our subject was reared in Ross County, where he received a good common-school education, and after leaving school was apprenticed to a brick-mason. Upon completing his term of apprenticeship to that trade, he returned to his favorite occupation of farming, which he followed during the remainder of his life, varied with work at his trade, which was confined principally to building brick chimneys. When the United States came to blows with Great Britian in 1812, he enlisted in his country's service and returned blow for blow, doing good service till the haughty British finally abandoned the attempt to re-conquer the vigorous young Republic, which the Revolutionary heroes had established on the soil of America. He departed this life at the age of seventy-four, in Covington, Ind, whither he had removed in the fall of 1829.

The mother of Dr. Hull was Margaret Long, a native of Pick County, Ohio; she was born near Circleville, and passed her youth in that county, which was also the place of her marriage and residence during the early years of her wedded life. She died when our subject was but twelve years old leaving him and a younger brother and sister to the care of their father, who married a second time and became the parent of two more children. Following the loss of the second wife the father was again married.

The subject of this sketch was born May 31, 1821, and when eight years of age removed in the care of his parents to Covington, Ind., where the father entered eighty acres of land from the Government and began farming. His early life was passed in the usual manner of a farmer's boy until he reached the age of seventeen years when he was apprenticed to learn the tanners and curriers' trade, which occupation he followed some six or seven years during which time he was married, Nov. 1, 1813, to Miss Gemima Baum, a native of Ohio. The parents of Mrs. Hull removed to Fountain County, Ind., when she was only one year old, and that remained her home until her marriage as above stated in Covington, Ind. to Dr. Hull.

The first records of the family of Mrs. Hull are found in Pennsylvania, where her mother's father figured as a German Baptist or Dunkard preacher. He was a good German scholar but never learned to either speak or write the English language. Her paternal grandfather and mother were also German scholars and confined their reading and nearly all their conversation to that language. Her father, Jonas Baum served honorably throughout the War of 1812.

Dr. Hull began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. Weldon, of Covington, continuing there some three or four years when he began the practice of medicine near Paxton, Ford Co., Ill., where he purchased a piece of land. He remained there about three years then removed to Higginsville, Vermilion County, in 1859, when after a short stay in that place he moved to Marysville, where he followed his profession until he finally located in Dallas now Indianola, in 1869.

Dr. and Mrs. Hull have had eight children, five of whom grew to maturity. They are named respectively: Francis M., Kissy B., William W., who died in infancy; Martha A.; James M. died an infant; John C. Freemont; Emma S. died when four years old; and Edwin M.

Dr. Hull has had an extensive practice in his profession, as large, perhaps, as any physician in Indianola, and was at one time quite wealthy not-

withstanding his generous liberality, but his kindness was cruelly taken advantage of by a man engaged in the business of buying horses for the western trade. This man persuaded Dr. Hull to endorse his notes, but after securing the horses by means of the security furnished by them, decamped taking the animals but leaving the debts, which, of course, were collected off the unfortunate doctor and caused him the loss of several thousand dollars.

The subject of this sketch has lived in retirement for the last four or five years, advancing age and delicate health compelling him to relinquish the calls made upon him except those whose urgency would not admit of refusal. He and his excellent wife are consistent Christians and liberal contributers to every good work and are worthy members of the Baptist Church. The Doctor is a Mason on holding his membership in the Vermilion Lodge No. 265.

The pecuniary interests of Dr. Hull have all been centered at Indianola. He was one of the incorporters of the village and has served on the Village Board a position which afforded him the opportunity of advancing the interests of his constituents. He was an old line Whig, but at the disruption of parties consequent upon the agitation of the slavery question, and the formation of new ones based upon that issue. He cast his lot with the Republicans, voting for John C. Fremont, after whom he named his son—J. C. Fremont Hull.

GEORGE W. ANKRUM who was born Oct. 19, 1826, in Berkeley County, Va., was raised at Ridge Farm where he lived with his father, who was a weaver, his mother and nine brothers, six of whom are living, viz: Anthony L., John, Elwood, David, Wesley and Harrison; one of these died at the age of fourteen years and Asa who came to this county in 1837 settling in this township, near Yankee Point, died at the age of forty-seven.

The subject of this sketch received a primary education in a log cabin with puncheon floor, greased paper window panes, clapboard roof, and split-log seats. When still a boy he learned the weaver's trade at which he was very apt and soon became proficient in weaving double coverlets, carpets, woolen and cotton goods. He followed this trade until his health began to fail and then became a farmer. He plowed with the old fashioned plow, with wooden moldboard and had to carry a paddle with him to clean off the plow every few minutes.

Oct. 4, 1860, Mr. Ankrum married Sarah Canada, a daughter of Frederick Canada, a pioneer of this township. They became the parents of four children. They were named as follows: Donnie E., Harrison B., Lilly A., and Frederick B. Donnie was married to James L. Bell of this township and had one child, Georgia. Lilly married John H. Davis of the Ridge and has no children.

He, of whom we write never sought official honors, but passed the remainder of his life at the Ridge where he had a fine residence and 250 acres of land.

MERRICK PATTON, late of section 29 Elwood Township and now deceased, first saw the light near Zanesville, Ohio, having been born March 27, 1830. His parents dying when he was quite small he accompanied his older brothers and sisters to Hamilton County, Ind., to which they removed. His education was received in the primitive school house so many times described in this volume, with its puncheon floor, clapboard roof and split-log seats. Notwithstanding the many disadvantages which he labored under, our subject acquired a fair education and later turned his attention to agriculture, in which occupation he was successfully engaged until his death.

The subject of this biography was married July 14, 1852, to Miss Priscilla Mendenhall, daughter of James Mendenhall, deceased. This congenial union has been blest by the birth of seven children, five of whom are living. They were named respectively: Mahlon R., Mary J. (Mrs. Lancaster), Davis R., Lilla E. and Ira E. Mr. Patton, of this sketch, passed from life Feb. 15, 1870. He was a devoted and consistent member of the Society of Friends,

of which Society his family were also members. Our subject lived in such a manner as to command the respect of his fellow townsmen, and now that he has gone, will always be remembered as an active and useful member of the community.

CHARLES A. WRIGHT is a young man of great promise, universally esteemed for his many sterling qualities, prominent among which are courtesy, good judgment, ability and his exhibition of public spirit. He came from a most excellent family, his father being one of the leading citizens of Sidell Township. He has been particularly active in furthering the advancement of his stirring little village, and his name will go down in its history as one of its earliest and most enterprising journalists.

Mr. Wright is also a young man of considerable means, owning a large farm, printing office and other property. He may well look forward to a promising future. If Sidell ever becomes a large town, its growth may be attributed in a large measure to the enterprise and public spirit of Mr. Wright. The Sidell *Journal* was established May 1, by James E. Whipple, of Cayuga, Ind., who sold the plant, after operating it fourteen weeks, to Mr. Wright, who took charge of it August 1, of that year. It was an eight-page folio, bright, newsy and well printed, and was one of the chief instruments in the growth of the town. Mr. Wright leased his office building and presses to T. M. Morgan, who is now publishing the Sidell *Wayside*.

Mr. Wright is the son of Silas Wright, who came to Vermilion County in 1846, and who was a resident here for more than forty years. He died on the 6th day of May, 1886, his wife following him to the grave five weeks later. They were the parents of five children: William H., Charles A., Ella M., Mabel, and George A., who died at the age of six years. William is a farmer in Sidell Township; Ella M. is the wife of Charles Church, a miller of the same place; Mabel resides at home with her brother William. Charles, of whom this is written, was born April 15, 1860, in this township, on the old Wright homestead, where his early life was passed. He attended the public schools of this county, and at the age of twenty-three he entered the Normal School at Danville, where he continued his studies until his duties called him home to labor on his father's farm, which he inherited after the decease of his parents. In 1887 he went to San Antonio, Tex., where he purchased a car-load of Texas ponies, and shipped them to Sidell, and there sold them. He has also dealt extensively in mules, purchased at St. Louis and shipped north. On Dec. 12, 1888, he was appointed postal clerk on the route from Chicago to Terre Haute, Ind., and in March, 1889, he resigned this position. He is an advocate of temperance, having been a charter member of the Good Templars' Lodge at Sidell.

Although young in years, Mr. Wright has a large knowledge of the world, and is therefore well fitted to fill any position to which he may aspire. He is an enthusiastic Democrat, and will employ all honorable means for the success of his party, while he and his newspaper are potent factors in the Democratic cause.

REV. DAVID COAKE, farmer and preacher of the gospel, a resident of Danvillé Township, was born in Carter County, Ky., Oct. 6, 1848. His great-grandfather, of the same name, came to America with his family in colonial times, and fought in the War of the Revolution. He settled in Scott County, W. Va., and there spent his last years. The grandfather of our subject was three years old when he came with his parents to this country. He was reared in Scott County. After his marriage to Rebecca Flannery, a native of Scott County, he removed to Lee County, where he was engaged in farming till his death. His son, Henry J. Coake, father of our subject, was born in that county, Aug. 18, 1818. At twenty years of age, his father being dead, the young man went with his mother to Kentucky. He there married Elenor Rowe, daughter of Edward and Elenor (Littleton) Rowe, of Carter County. Mr. and Mrs. Coake re-

sided in that county till 1863, when they came to Illinois, and purchased the farm that he and his son now occupy, which is beautifully located on section 10, Danville Township.

The subject of this present sketch was in his fifteenth year, when he accompanied his father and mother to this place. He married in 1875 Miss Ann Willin , a native of Carter County, Ky., daughter of Edward and Clara C. (Duncan) Willim. Of their happy wedded life one child has been born, Bertha. David Coake united with the Christian Church when seventeen years of age, and began preaching at thirty-six. Bred to agriculture, a lover of the country and its peaceful pursuits, Mr. Coake, in taking up the clerical profession, did not abandon the plough, and has not ceased sowing seed in material soil since he began the culture of spiritual fields. No doubt, in practice the blending of the two vocations is a benefit to both. Sharing on the week day, the labors of the people, yet not engrossed by them, partaking of their joys and anxieties, yet not bound up in worldly cares, he is better fitted to give counsel to the erring, advice to the inquiring, to lend a helping hand to the weak and stumbling, and to speak of heavenly things to those who are bidding farewell to things of earth.

CHARLES CHURCH, junior member of the firm of Rice & Church, general stock buyers and shippers of Sidell, is also the proprietor of the Sidell Star Feed Mills. He was born in Catlin Township and reared there. His father, William A. Church, is one of the substantial farmers of this township, and is a native of this county. The grandfather, Alexander Church, is still living, is in his eighty-seventh year and was one of the first pioneers of this county, where he came in 1821, from Virginia. Our subject's mother is Hester (Douglas) Church, a member of the Douglas family from which the Hon. Stephen A. Douglas came. Alexander Church and wife are the parents of five children, namely: Sarah D., William J., Annie L., Thomas W. and Charles S. Sarah is the wife of J. Acree of Danville; William is farming in Catlin Township; Annie L. married L. Bushy, who also farms in Catlin Township; Thomas W. lives at home with his parents.

The birth of our subject occurred Feb. 9, 1864. He acquired his education in the public schools at Danville. At the age of twenty-four our subject met and married his wife, Miss Ella Wright. He came to Sidell Nov. 8, 1888 and bought village property and the feed mill the same fall. He then formed a partnership with Mr. W. J. Rice and they are now shipping hogs to Chicago and Indianapolis.

Our subject owns a fine farm of 160 acres north of Sidell, and has placed tenants on it. Mr. Church, in his political sentiments, is firmly established upon the Republican foundation, and is a young man of character, ability and enterprise.

HON. DAVID D. EVANS, Judge of the County Court of Vermilion County, is regarded as one of the ablest lawyers of Central Illinois. A close student and an extensive reader, he is not only well versed in the duties of his profession, but in all respects is a man of more than ordinary capacities. Not alone has he distinguished himself at the bar, but in his private life and as a citizen possesses those traits of character which form the basis of all good society. In politics he is a sound Republican, and has had a sensible influence amid the councils of his party in Illinois, serving in various positions of trust and responsibility. In 1876 he was a delegate to the National Republican Convention that met at Cincinnati.

The subject of this sketch was born near Ebensburg, Cambria Co., Pa., April 29, 1829. His grandfather on his father's side was a freeholder in the north of Wales. Having a large family and his land being subject to the English law of entailment, he concluded to sell his life estate to his oldest son and move to America, to give his other children a chance for fame and fortune in a free country. He settled in Pennsylvania about the year 1780, but soon thereafter died, leaving only

an example of industry and energy, as an inheritance to his family. David Evans, father of the subject of this sketch, learned the trade of a stone mason and followed that business as a workman and contractor until about the year 1810, when he married and settled on a farm near Ebensburg, Pa. He followed the business of a farmer and contractor the balance of his life, and died in Ebensburg, Dec. 19, 1859.

Thirteen children were born to David Evans, one of whom died in infancy. Seven are still living. His wife, Anna, was the daughter of Rev. Rees Lloyd. Mr. Lloyd came from Wales about the year 1779, and was a fellow emigrant with the father of ex-Gov. Bibb. The latter went to Ohio, but Mr. Lloyd settled in the woods where now stands the quaint old town of Ebensburg, Pa. There he chopped out a farm, fought the wolf from the door, preached the Gospel and raised his family. Soon after settling in these then western wilds he procured the organization of a new county, and caused it to be called Cambria, in honor of the ancient name of Wales. He also donated fifty acres of his farm and laid out a town, which he called Ebensburg in honor of a deceased son, named Eben or Ebenezer, and procured its selection as the county seat of the county.

In his old age Mr. Lloyd again became smitten with the spirit of emigration and the western fever, and started for the village of Cincinnati, Ohio. Finding it only a few log huts among the hills, and not liking its scenery, nor foreseeing its future, he pushed on to the southern part of Butler County, that State, where he again met his friend and fellow emigrant, Mr. Bibb. Here, with a part of his family, on the rich bottoms of Paddy's Run, near the village of New London, he spent the remainder of his days, dying at the ripe old age of about ninety years.

Mr. Evans, the subject of this sketch, worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-three years of age, with the exception of one summer, when he was employed in a blacksmith shop with a brother-in-law. His early education and advantages were extremely limited. He was a stranger to the inside of a school house until in his tenth year. For a few years thereafter he attended a country district school for about two months each winter. Commencing in his twenty-fourth year, he attended several terms of the Eclectic Institute at Hiram, Ohio, paying his way without assistance from any source, teaching school in the winter and working in the harvest field during the summer vacations. One of his fellow students at the Eclectic Institute was the late Pres. Garfield. Upon leaving Hiram, Mr. Evans went to Southern Ohio, where he taught school one term at West Elkton, Preble County, and for five years and six months in one house at Miltonville, Butler County. While teaching he commenced reading law, entered the law department of the University of Michigan in 1860, and was graduated with his class in 1863.

While during the war of the rebellion, the government had the support and warmest sympathy of Mr. Evans, his military service was of but little material assistance. Soon after going to the field he was attacked with a malignant type of typhoid fever which unfitted him for duty, and he was honorably discharged in the fall of 1864. After his recovery he repaired to Danville, Ill., taught school for a few terms, and in 1865–66 he was editor and part proprietor of the Danville *Plaindealer*. He commenced the active practice of law in the fall of 1866, and continued successfully until the summer of 1882. He then became a candidate for the Republican nomination for the office of County Judge. After a close and somewhat acrimonious contest, he succeeded against a very popular opponent, and was elected without opposition by the Democrats. He found the affairs of the office in exceedingly bad condition, straightened them out, and revolutionized the heretofore loose practice of the court. At the end of the term he was renominated without much opposition, and was re-elected over a strong Democratic opponent by the largest majority of any Republican on the ticket. He still keeps up the business and the vigorous practice of the court. He is in excellent health, and good for twenty years more of active life.

Judge Evans was married to Mrs. Edwilda A. Sconce, Oct. 9, 1867. To them three children have been born, the eldest of whom, Lloyd Cromwell, died in the eighth year of his age. The second child, Ruth Edwilda, died in infancy. Waldo Carl,

the youngest, remains to his parents, and is now (1889) in his thirteenth year. Mrs. Evans was born in Berkeley County, W. Va., July 31, 1838, and is the daughter of Dr. Edward and Rebecca Bruce (Lemon) Cromwell. Mrs. Cromwell was the daughter of John Lemon, who came from Berkeley County, W. Va., to Danville at an early day. Dr. Cromwell practiced in Kentucky, and died while Mrs. Evans was an infant. Mrs. Cromwell likewise passed from earth many years ago. Their daughter, Edwilda A. Cromwell, was first married to George Fithian, a son of Dr. William Fithian, who is still living, and over ninety years old. Of this union there was born one child, Will E. Fithian, now of San Antonio, Texas. Mrs. Fithian was married the second time to Lafayette H. Sconce, of Danville, who only lived a short time after his marriage.

Mr. Evans is a member of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 45, A. F. & A. M., of Vermilion Chapter, No. 82, R. A. M., and of Athelstan Commandery, and is also a member of Damascus Lodge K. of P.

A. C. FREEMAN will be remembered as the polite and efficient gentleman who for fifteen years has served the city of Danville as its City Clerk. Forced to resign that position, which he had creditably held for the last fifteen years, on account of being troubled with heart disease, he refused to again become a candidate for the office. He was born Aug. 7, 1832, at Beallsville, Washington Co., Pa., eight miles from Blaine's birthplace. His father, Lewis Freeman, was a very prosperous merchant, who died at the early age of thirty-five years. The subject of our sketch attended the common school until the age of fourteen, when he began to clerk at different points in the county until he was twenty-three years of age, when he came to Edgar County, this State, and worked on a farm until 1861. He was subject to asthma, but the Western country agreed with him and in a great measure he regained his health.

Miss Jennie R. Newkirk, who became the wife of our subject in 1859, was the daughter of George and Maria Newkirk, of Washington County, Pa. She came of a family distinguished for their honesty and patriotism. In 1859, the year of their marriage, she came to Illinois with her husband. In 1861 Mr. and Mrs. Freeman came to Fairmount, Vermilion County, where Mr. Freeman became Station Agent and Postmaster. In 1867 he was placed in charge of the station at State Line, Ind., also on the Wabash, and continued in the employ of the Wabash until 1872. In 1874 he was elected City Clerk, which position he held for fifteen years. His first wife lived about two years and left two children: Charles A., an infant who died a few days after the mother, and Ella Nora, now living. Mr. Freeman was married a second time in 1864, to Miss Mary W. Dustin, born in Enfield, N. H., and daughter of Sylvester and Marilla (Wells) Dustin, by whom he had five children: Harry L., Fred D., Albert D., Nettie J. and Edmund G

Mr. Freeman's life and position in connection with the Wabash Railroad Company, as well as with the city of Danville, has implied a great deal of responsibility as the custodian of thousands of dollars, both for the Wabash and the city. Mr. Freeman has been a Mason since 1854 and became a Knight Templar in 1882. He is a member of Athelstan Commandery of Danville, No. 45. He is also a member of the Knights of Honor, Franklin Lodge, No. 409. A very decided Republican, he with his son are the only members of the family belonging to that party. Since his retirement from office he has led a quiet and retired life at his home in Danville.

JONATHAN LARRANCE, late a resident of section 35, Elwood Township, is a native of this county, having spent his entire life in the township where he first saw the light, Jan. 7, 1834. The parents of our subject, John and Ruth Larrance, emigrated to this county from East Tennessee in the fall of 1827 and immediately set about establishing for themselves a comfortable home, which they succeeded admirably in doing.

The subject of this biography conned his first

lessons in Vermilion Seminary, now Vermilion Academy, which was quite an improvement over the primitive log cabin in which the most of the youth of those days were obliged to get an education. Mr. Larrance, however, upon launching out in life on his own account, chose farming for his vocation and had no cause for regretting his choice.

The first important step in the life of our subject upon establishing a home of his own was his marriage, Dec. 5, 1861, with Miss Hannah, daughter of Alexander and Mary McGee, both of whom are deceased. Mrs. Larrance was born in Tuscarwas County, Ohio, Jan. 28, 1837, and of her union with our subject has become the mother of seven children, six of whom are still living, viz.: Perry M., born Aug. 22, 1862; John, May 27, 1865; Alice, March 5, 1867; Laura, Sept. 1, 1870; Mark, April 17, 1874; Martha E., Dec. 25, 1876. One son, Marion, born Dec. 10, 1868, died May 6, 1870. Perry married Miss Nancy E. Black, and lives on a part of the old homestead; he is the father of a daughter, Annie; Alice was married to Charles Canady, of Georgetown Township, this county.

Our subject was the owner of 295 acres of excellent farming land, which has since been divided among his heirs. He also held a half interest in the Ridge Farm Tile Factory, which has since been sold. He passed from earth Jan. 25, 1885, regretted and mourned by all who knew him. He had earned for himself a position among the honorable and upright citizens of the county.

Mr. Larrance, although never seeking political preferment, always cast his vote and influence on the side of right. Socially he was a Freemason, and religiously a member of the Society of Friends.

ERSOM FRENCH was the son of George, and the grandson of Henry French. The latter, after being married to Miss Elizabeth Ersom, left his home in Germany and sought a new field of labor under the banner of freedom, in the land of liberty. After this worthy couple had been in the United States for some time, there was born to them a son, to whom they gave the name of George. His birth occurred in Mercer County, Ky. Henry French, when in Germany, had learned the trades of blacksmith and gunsmith. Besides their son George, who was the third son, they had six other children—two boys and four girls. After a happy and peaceful life the father and mother died, at the old homestead in Mercer County. George, the father of our subject, was brought up in Kentucky, where he married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Sterman, in about 1800. Miss Sterman's grandfather was a reliable, trustworthy man, which is evinced by the fact that as a guard he was with Gen. Washington for seven years during the Revolutionary War, after which he took up his residence in North Carolina, or Virginia. In 1809 George French and his wife removed to Knox County, Ind., where Ersom, the subject of this sketch, was born, in April, 1811. At the beginning of the War of 1812 the father took his family back to Kentucky, left them with his parents and returned to Indiana, where he became wagoner for the soldiers. The road on which he traveled was that extending between Forts Knox and Harrison.

On two occasions his wagons loaded with provisions were captured by Indians. They burned the wagons, took possession of the eatables, and had it not been for the fleetness of his horse, George French would not have escaped as he did without injury. He drove a team of five horses, the leader of which was a remarkably swift mare. After the close of the war, Mr. French brought his family back to Indiana and settled northeast of Vincennes. After a few years, being dissatisfied with his residence, he removed to a place near Terre Haute on the prairie, where he spent his last days, leaving eleven children, whose names were as follows: Umphery, Henry, John, Ersom, Mary, Erastus, Thomas, Elizabeth, George, Washington, and Mary J. Mrs. George French died at the age of eighty-two years; she evidently inherited in part her mother's longevity, that lady having lived to be ninety-three years of age.

Our subject while in Indiana, was made acquainted with Miss Harriet Clem, whom he greatly admired, and in the course of time he married her. They had one daughter, named after her mother, Harriet. This daughter is now Mrs. Elijah Cheno-

weth. His first wife died, and Mr. French took as his next partner in life Mrs. Eliza (Boling) Carrol, a widow, by which marriage he had three children, viz., Truman P., George, now deceased, and Algy D. In 1852 Ersom came to Illinois and located in this township, where he has since lived. In 1850 he traveled to Kansas, which he left later on account of the frontier ruffians. He naturally found it difficult to live with men whose political opinions were so diametrically opposed to his own, especially on the subject of slavery, of which they approved and wished to have extended, and of which he as heartily disapproved and desired to have abolished. Our subject then located on a farm in this county, where he lived until the death of his wife, in February, 1886. Since this event his son, Dr Truman, and his family have lived with him, at his house adjacent to the village of Armstrong, which is partly on his farm. Truman, after having finished his studies in the common school, attended Rush Medical College, at Chicago, and in Indianapolis, Ind. The school where he commenced his studies when a child, was a private one, which had been built by our subject and three other men. After Truman's graduation, he first practiced in Ogden seven years, but finally came to this village, January, 1880. He has now had a good practice here for about seventeen years and still continues to be successful.

On March 1, 1877, he was married to Miss Eugenia I., daughter of Hiram and Mary A. (Blanchard) Robinson, of Peoria County, this State. His two boys, George M. and Morris D., are still living. The household was last summer increased by the birth of another child, a boy who died when seven weeks old. Together with two stores and other buildings in the village, Truman French is owner of the farm, including eighty acres on which he lives. Our subject and his ancestors were members of the Methodist Church, and the family was well known for its knowledge and intelligence. A. D., one of the sons of Ersom and brother of Truman French, was also graduated at the Chicago and Indianapolis medical colleges; he practiced at Potomac, Ill., until the spring of 1889. He then went to Crete, Neb., where he now is busily employed with his profession.

Algy D. was married at Potomac, Ill., to Miss Mamie Morse. Their only daughter Gracie E. having died when two years of age, the parents are left childless.

Truman P. French is the much respected Master of the Potomac Lodge, No. 782, A. F. & A. M., of which he is a charter member. The duties of Ersom French and his sons have been of a brilliant nature and such as require the greatest and most solid as well as useful of the civic virtues, integrity, forethought, justice and steady, inexhaustible industry.

WILLIAM McMILLIN, of Carroll Township is a native of Somerset Township, Washington Co., Pa. His father, Robert McMillen, was a native of Maryland, and his mother, Elizabeth (Thompson) McMillin was a native of Washington County, Pa., and of Scotch parentage. The grandfather also bore the given name of Robert, which he received in his native country, Ireland. The date of his emigration to America is not known for certain, but it was sometime before the Revolution.

The revolution of the American Colonies was completed; the Constitution was formulated and accepted by the requisite number of States; a new Nation aspired to a place among the Governments of the World, but although the ship of State was successfully launched on the ocean of progress, there were yet many dangers to be encountered and many difficulties to be overcome before the youthful Republic could establish its claim to a permanent position among the Nations of the earth. One of the earliest questions to confront the new Congress of the United States was the one relating to the manner of securing a revenue adequate to the requirements of the recently adopted Constitution. After much consultation and mature reflection a system of taxation was adopted which seemed to the heads of the departments reasonable and just, but which created considerable opposition in some quarters; the farmers of Pennsylvania in particular conceived themselves aggrieved by the tax on whisky, a considerable quantity of which was man-

ufactured by them and constituted a large part of their income; they therefore refused to pay it and organized a rebellion against the enforcement of the, to them, obnoxious tax. This event known as the Whisky Insurrection threatened to be formidable but the President promptly sent a force, composed principally of volunteers, against them, which speedily subjugated and reduced them to obedience. As a volunteer on that occasion the father of Mr. McMillin took an honorable part, serving in the Government ranks with great credit. On being mustered out of service at the conclusion of the trouble Mr. McMillin returned home and resumed work at his trade.

The mother of the subject of this sketch died in middle life leaving three children who were carefully reared by a sister of their father. Robert, the eldest, was born in 1808, and although so old is still active and enterprising. He resides in Washington County, Pa., and is the parent of eight children, who are all living. William, the second child, is the subject of this notice. Elizabeth is the youngest.

William McMillin was born in 1810 and reared in Bentlysville, Pa. Although his father never acquired possession of any land, William was early put to work on a farm beginning the task of earning his own living when a lad of only twelve, and commencing to plough at the age of thirteen when he received the sum of twelve and one-half cents a day, performing the work with an old fashioned wooden mould-board plow. He continued to follow this occupation as long as he remained in Pennsylvania. In 1853 he was married to Miss Mary Hill, a daughter of William and Annie (Lindsy) Hill, both natives of Crawford County, Pa. The father was a stone cutter and built many an abutment and arch for the bridges which span the Allegheny River. They were the parents of five children, namely: John, Jacob, Sheldon, Mary, and Alonza.

Mrs. McMillin was a native of Crawford County, Pa., but removed to Washington County, where she made the acquaintance of our subject. The journey to Illinois was made overland in a wagon. After a short pause in Vermilion County Mr. McMillin located in Edgar County, where he remained about one year, removing in the following spring to Vermilion County where he purchased 200 acres of land close by where Sidell now stands. The land was partially improved, and he continued to reside on it for some years but there were no schools and he had a family of children, so he sold out to John Sidell and once more removed, locating the next time in Indianola.

Mr. and Mrs. McMillin are the parents of six children. For several years they kept a hotel and later bought 150 acres of land two miles south of Indianola, which is their present home. Mr. McMillin has been Justice of the Peace for the last twenty years and in all that time has never had a single decision of his reversed in the higher courts, which shows that his ability as a jurist stands deservedly high.

JONATHAN DILLON resides on section 15, Elwood Township. He is a native of Clinton County, Ohio, having been born there Feb. 12, 1820. His father, Luke Dillon (deceased), was a native of Guilford County, N. C., and came to Ohio when seventeen years old, and engaged in farming, and in the fall of 1830 purchased a large farm one mile north of Georgetown, when it was a wild country inhabited by a few settlers, and wild animals were many.

The subject of this sketch was reared upon a farm, and received a limited education in the primitive log schoolhouse with split-pole seats, clapboard roof, clapboard ceiling, huge fireplace in one end of the room; stick and clay chimney, and log out for a window. The family to which our subject belonged first lived in a log house with one room which afterward had a kitchen built on it. The family consisted of ten children, six of whom are living: Naomi, James W., Hannah, Jonathan, William and George. One son, John L., First Lieutenat of a company in the 38th Illinois Infantry, in the late war, was killed in the battle of Stone River; the others were: Sallie, Ruth and Jesse, all grown up and had been married.

The marriage of our subject occurred Oct. 13,

1841, to Charity Haworth, daughter of Dillon Haworth (deceased). By her union with our subject there have been born three children, named respectively: Mary, Ruth (deceased) and Barclay. Mary married Joseph Henderson, of this township, and is the mother of five children—William, Lucretia E., Minnie, Rosa and Josephine. Barclay married Lizzie Haworth, and resides in Graham County; Iowa; they have become the parents of six children. Mrs. Dillon died May 21, 1850, and subsequently Mr. Dillon was again married to Mrs. Permelia Henderson, Dec. 26, 1853, widow of George Henderson and daughter of Charles Madden (deceased), a pioneer of this township. By this second union our subject has become the father of seven children, six of whom are living —Charles, Emily, Jane, Lucy, Lewis and Sallie. Charles married a Miss Emory, and lives in this township; Emily married John Pugh, of Edgar County, this State and has six children; Jane married Garrett O. Heron; Lucy became the wife of John Canaday, of this township; and Lewis married Flora Wolf.

The subject of this notice owns an extensive farm of 228 acres, and, in connection with his agricultural pursuits, devotes considerable time to stock-raising. His favorites are the Poland-China swine and the Short-horn cattle. Religiously, our subject and some of his family are members of the Society of Friends, and he is a stalwart Republican.

MILLER T. FINLEY. In the history of countries and men the world over, it is an acknowledged fact that those who have performed the grandest part on life's stage have arisen from an humble position in life and through difficulties which called forth their greatest energies. He who has succeeded under the stress of circumstances deserves all the credit which his fellowmen can bestow upon him; for where one has succeeded ten have failed and relapsed into obscurity.

The career of Mr. Finley is one of more than ordinary interest, illustrating in a marked manner what a man may accomplish through steady perseverance and a strong will. He is one of the oldest settlers in Grant Township, and occupies a farm of 600 acres on section 24, township 23, range 12. He also owns another farm of 300 acres in the same township on sections 27 and 28, besides two acres of town lots and other property in Rossville. He had to begin with, a land warrent for 160 acres from his brother David, who died in the Mexican War, and from that he has built up his present fortune with, it is hardly necessary to say, the exercise of rare good judgment and great industry and economy. He is known to most of the people of this region, who have watched his prosperous career with the interest which is naturally felt in looking upon those who have achieved success under many disadvantages.

Mr. Finley was born in Ripley County, Ind., Jan. 26, 1826, but while he was a small child his parents came to this county, settling in 1833 near the present site of Catlin. The father took up new land and labored very hard to improve it. He was not destined, however, to realize his hope, and becoming involved in debt, a large portion of his property had to be sacrificed for much less than what it was really worth. Both parents died in 1852 within three days of each other. Our subject and his sister, Nancy, remained with their parents until the latter no longer needed their filial offices. Then the sister lived with her brother until her marriage with Capt. Samuel Frazier, of Danville, a sketch of whom will be found on another page in this volume.

Before the death of his parents our subject had begun operating on his quarter section of land heretofore spoken of, and in due time added forty acres, and entered in earnest upon its improvement and cultivation. He put up a little frame house of two rooms and there later himself, his sister and his brother, Watts, lived engaged in farming and stock raising. As he increased the value of his land and there were furnished better facilities for the transportation of produce, he gradually abandoned the live-stock business and gave his attention more generally to farming. He invested his surplus capital in additional land, and is now one of

the leading land-owners in the township. In 1874 he completed a handsome and commodious residence—one of the finest in this part of the country—and upon which he expended $4,000. He has a fine barn also, occupying an area of 40x44 feet with a solid stone basement and all the other buildings and appliances necessary to the complete equipment of the modern rural homestead. He avails himself of the most approved machinery and keeps himself well posted upon both agriculture and politics.

Although a stanch supporter of Republican principles, Mr. Finley has no political aspirations, but no man rejoices more in the success of his party as he declares that he would rather have lost a $500 bill than that Harrison should have failed of election. Upon two different occasions he left the farm and removed to Rossville, deciding to retire from active labor, but found time hanging heavy on his hands and twice went back to the farm where, although not performing any of its duties, he is busily employed looking after its extensive interests. He is a member of the Methodist Church at Rossville, and has always contributed to the support of churches both at Hoopeston and Rossville.

In preparing to celebrate Independence day in 1867 Mr. Finley fortified himself with a congenial companion on the 3d of July that year, being married to Mrs. Rebecca Pate, an occasion both will remember as long as life lasts. They commenced their wedded lives together in Grant Township and is due time there were born to them three children—Nannie J., Gertie and Edith. They still make their home with their parents and are being given the educational and social advantages befitting their birth and station. Mrs. Finley is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Rossville to which our subject has contributed generously, especially in the erection of their church edifice at Hoopeston.

Mrs. Finley was born in Ripley County, Ind., Sept. 2, 1830, and is the daughter of Jane and Nehemiah Morehouse who are now deceased. She remained a resident of her native county until her marriage with Mr. Pate, then came with him to this county, settling near Catlin, where the death of Mr. Pate took place in 1867. David Finley, the father of our subject, was a native of Kentucky and lived till the advanced age of seventy-two years. He removed to the vicinity of Lawrenceburg, Ohio, when a young man and was there married to Miss Nancy Miller. Upon leaving the Buckeye State they settled in Ripley County, Ind., whence they came to Illinois. Their family included seventeen children, thirteen of which lived to mature age. Mr. Finley followed farming all his life, the most of which he spent on the frontier. Her mother's maiden name was Henderson.

WILLIAM FITHIAN, M.D., for many years a well known resident of Danville, and one of its most popular practitioners, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on April 7, 1799. His father, George Fithian, a native of Elizabethtown, N. J., was reared and married in that State. Afterward he removed to the Northwest Territory, and was one of the earliest settlers of Cincinnati and the first to engage in mercantile business there. A few years later, however, he removed to Springfield, Ohio, where he lived but a short time. When the town of Urbana was laid out he removed thence, and erected the first house in the place. This was a commodious log building, which he opened as a publichouse and kept a tavern several years. Finally he and his wife came to this county, and spent their declining years in Danville with their son, the subject of this sketch, and their remains were laid to rest in Danville Cemetery.

William Fithian was but thirteen years of age at the breaking out of the War of 1812. Most of the able-bodied men of the neighborhood enlisted in the service, and when the Indians became troublesome the elder men were called into the service, leaving the younger ones at home. These latter organized themselves as homeguards, and young Fithian joined them. When seventeen years old he began the study of medicine under Dr. Joseph Carter, a successful and eminent physician of Urbana, Ohio. He commenced practice at Mechanicsburg, eleven miles east of Urbana, and after two years

formed a partnership with his preceptor, Dr. Carter, with whom he practiced until 1830.

Dr. Fithian now decided to move to the frontier, and accordingly, accompanied by his wife, came overland by team to this county, settling in Danville when there were but few families upon its present site. Indians still lingered here, while deer and other wild game was plentiful. The surrounding country was very thinly settled, the land being mostly owned by the Government and for sale at $1.25 per acre. The doctor had saved some money while practicing and began entering land, acquiring in due time a goodly area. He at once entered upon a successful practice, covering miles of the surrounding country, and even extending as far as Chicago. He pursued this prosperous course for upwards of fifty years, and became the owner of land not only in Vermilion County; but in different parts of the State. He now has a well improved farm of 2,500 acres in this county, which is operated by his sons.

The doctor has been four times married. His first wife, Francis L. Shain, died two years after her marriage without children. He was then wedded to Miss Oleatha T. Berry, a native of Urbana, Ohio, who became the mother of four children, of whom George and John are both deceased. The survivors are Henry and Elisha C. B. Mrs. Oleatha Fithian only lived eight years after her marriage. His fourth wife was Miss Josephine L. Black, who remained his companion for a period of sixteen years, and then she, too, passed away.

ALLEN LEWIS. It is fifty-one years since Mr. Lewis, the oldest living resident of his township, first set foot upon the soil of Vermilion County. He had emigrated hither from his native State of New York, coming on foot the entire distance, with the exception of fourteen miles, being about one month on the way. His purpose was to secure a tract of new land in the wild West, and which he hoped in time would prove to him a valuable acquisition, although the prospect then was anything but flattering. He entered ninety-seven acres on section 22. After a six months' stay, he went back to New York State, where he remained three years and was married to Miss Jeanette Green.

Upon returning to this county for permanent settlement, our subject and his young wife made the trip from Chicago to Rossville in a "prairie schooner." They sojourned near Rossville four or five years, then rented an hotel, which furnished one of the early stopping places for travelers coming from Milford, and was the first house of its kind in this region. Mr. Lewis officiated as "mine host" three or four years. He had entered considerable land in the meantime, but finally concluding it was of little value, sold it at $4 or $5 per acre. There were few people coming in at first, and wild animals, especially deer, were plentiful. Of these he believes that he has seen as many as 300 in one day, so whatever else the settlers lacked in the way of provisions, there was plenty of wild meats, and in the summer season there were quantities of gooseberries, mulberries, blackberries, etc.

Mr. Lewis during his residence in this county has improved a great many acres of land. His present farm cost him only $1 per acre, and he settled upon it in 1853. Prior to the establishment of a postoffice at Rossville he was made Postmaster of a place called Rio, and this frequently was the result of an income for the Postmaster of only $1.25 per quarter or about $5 or $6 a year. Mr. Lewis was the first Postmaster in this part of the county, and held this office for about four years. He assisted in the establishment of the first school, and has a large portion of the time officiated as School Treasurer.

To our subject and his estimable wife there were born four children, only two of whom are living. The son, Sylvester, married Miss Hattie Clanahan; they have four children, and live three-fourths of a mile north of the old farm. Isabelle, the daughter, is the wife of Albert Boardman, and they are living in Rossville, for the purpose of educating their two children. Mrs. Jeanette (Green) Lewis was born in Ontario County, N. Y., and is the daughter of Benjamin Green, who was one of the early settlers of that region, and whose farm adjoined that of the Lewis family. Mr. Green died

some years ago; he was the father of Ira Green, who is represented elsewhere in this ALBUM.

The parents of our subject were Sylvester and Catherine (Dubois) Lewis, and the father was born in New York State, near the Hudson River. He came to the West while it was a wilderness, living in the woods four years before seeing a wagon. He opened up a good farm upon which he spent the remainder of his days. He belonged to the Presbyterian Church, while his wife was a Baptist in religion. They were the parents of nine children. Allen, our subject, in religious matters, inclines to the Presbyterian Church, of which he is a member at Rossville. He is one of the oldest living residents of his township, and has made for himself a good record as a man and a citizen.

HON. CHARLES A. ALLEN, member of the Thirty-Sixth General Assembly from the Thirty-First District of Illinois, was elected on the Republican ticket in 1884, 1886 and 1888, and is consequently serving his third term. He has brought to his position fine natural abilities, a large experience, and a conscientious fidelity to duty, which has enabled him to study the best interests of his constituents, to whom he has given uniform satisfaction.

Mr. Allen is recognized as a gentleman of more than ordinary ability, and has been prominent in the councils of his party for years, both in Central Illinois and in the Legislative halls at the Capitol of the State. In 1885 he served on the Judiciary Committee and with several other important bodies, and in 1887 was Chairman of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission, being that year also on the Judiciary Committee. In 1889 he was Chairman of the Committee on Corporations and Educational Institutions, while at the same time remaining with the Judiciary Committee. During the lively discussion over the matter of Gen. Logan's appointment he was the first man on the roll call, at that time a very important position.

All the interests of Mr. Allen have been centred in this county and vicinity, and here he has spent nearly his entire life. He was born in Danville, July 26, 1851, and two years later the family removed to the Ridge, in the northern part of the county, where they were the earliest settlers. Young Allen after leaving the district school entered the law department of the Michigan State University, by which he was graduated in 1876. He began the practice of his profession in Rossville, where he remained until 1881, when the new town of Hoopeston began to assume encouraging proportions, and he, accordingly, removed thither, where he has since made his home. In connection with his practice he has dealt considerably in real estate, and is now the owner of 1,200 acres of land. In the meantime he became one of the most prominent attorneys of this part of the county, and he has held various responsible positions connected with local affairs. Socially, he is a charter member of the K. of P., and also belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the I. O. O. F.

In Rossville, on the 4th of April, 1879, Mr. Allen was united in marriage with Miss Mary Thompson, daughter of L. M. Thompson, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Of this union there have been born two bright children, both sons—John N. and Lawrence T. The family residence is pleasantly situated, and forms an attractive resort for its most cultivated and refined element.

The father of our subject is William I. Allen, the first man to settle along the Northern line of this county. He is still living, and is represented on another page in this work.

DAVID R. SMITH, one of the self-made men of Elwood Township, is engaged in farming on section 17. His native State was West Virginia, he having been born there Sept. 17, 1824. His father, Isaac Smith, now deceased, was a native of East Tennessee and his mother, whose maiden name was Martha Ross, claims Virginia as the place of her birth. The parental household numbered seven children, two

of whom are deceased. Those living are named: Isaac, John, Lydia A., Hannah and David R., our subject.

Our subject accompanied his parents to this county when a lad of ten or twelve years and received his primary education in the customary log school house with its puncheon floor, clapboard roof, slab seats and wall desks. His first step towards establishing a home for himself was his marriage April 8, 1856, to Lydia McNeese, daughter of William McNeese, who is now deceased.

To Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born six children, only three of whom are living—Alfred, Pleasant and Isaac. Alfred took to wife Mahala Biggs of Georgetown, they have no children; Pleasant married Miss Viola Biggs and resides in this township; they have one child a daughter, Edna. Our subject is the possessor of sixty acres of good farming land and which yields him a comfortable income. He has served his township several years in the capacity of School Director, and has also held the position of Path Master and Constable, the latter office three years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith are members and active workers of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Politically our subject casts his vote and influence with the Republican party.

MRS. MARY PATTERSON. Indianola claims one of the oldest children of Vermilion County in the person of Mrs. Mary Patterson. She was born in what is now Carroll Township, June 13, 1823, and is the daugh- of Simeon and Nancy (Mundle) Cox. Her father was a native of Virginia, where in the bracing mountain air he grew to manhood. While sojourning awhile in Pennsylvania, he met and married a daughter of the Keystone State. Following his occupation of a millwright, he built a number of mills in his immediate neighborhood, but in the year 1823 emigrated to Carroll Township. He also built several mills in this vicinity, although making a farm his home until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Cox had thirteen children: Charles, Abner, Lot, Thomas, George, Adeline, Melinda, Mary, Jane, Louisa, Priscilla, Annie D. and Minerva E.

The subject of our sketch attained to years of maturity in Carroll Township, enduring the vicissitudes and enjoying the pleasures of pioneers of those days. When nineteen years of age she was married to Mr. Elijah Patterson, a native of Kentucky, but reared to manhood in Brown County, Ohio. Upon reaching manhood, stories of the Great West attracted him thither, but after his marriage he returned to his old home in Ohio, where he lived twelve or thirteen years. For a second time he cast his lot with those brave pioneers of the desolate frontier, and, with his family, settled in Carroll Township, which was his home until death called him away in 1875, at the age of sixty two years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Patterson were born ten children, as follows: George, Simeon, Eugene D., Ann E., Emma C., Franklin P., Leander, John W., Mary J. and Louella. Of these, John and Mary died at the ages of four years and three months respectively. The others reside as thus stated; George lives in Chicago, being a commission merchant in the Union Stockyards; his sister, Ann E., resides with him. Simeon is a barber in Indianola, and Eugene D. is a carpenter in the same town; Emma C. married Mr. James J. Healy, who is a merchant in Indianola, and whose sketch appears in this volume; Franklin P., Leander and Louella are still at the old homestead.

Mrs. Patterson is an intelligent and devoted Christian, having been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Indianola for a period of more than thirty years. During a long life of usefulness she has made a large circle of friends, and is known and loved for miles around. Glancing back through more than half a century, and comparing the condition of the country then with what it is to-day, she feels that the years have not only brought prosperity to the country, but have brought to her the right of enjoying well-earned repose in the bosom of her family. In her childhood's home she could stand at the door, and as far as the eye could reach there appeared nothing but the seemingly boundless prairie, save where the solitude was broken by the fleeing deer or the

wandering huntsman. Indians sometimes came near the lonely cabins, but even at that early date they were drifting toward the setting sun. The same child, now grown to be a prosperous and venerated woman, can still stand at the door of her comfortable home and witness the changes which time has wrought on the old familiar landscape. The former solitude is now as a blooming garden, with prosperous people and elegant residences. But among all these present residents the name of Mrs. Mary Patterson will be remembered with pleasure long after she has passed from among those who love her.

DR. JOHN HOLE, a dentist of rare talent, makes his residence at Ridge Farm. He was born in Belmont County, Ohio, in 1831, and is a son of Jonah Hole, a native of Loudoun County, Va., and who is now deceased. The mother of our subject was, Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan Ellis, a distinguished Quaker. Mrs. Hole was a native of Culpeper County, Va. The grandfather of our subject, Jacob Hole, married Mary Thomas, sister of Col. Thomas of Revolutionary fame. Jonah Hole, father of our subject was a Quaker minister and preached throughout Canada, the Carolinas, New England and the Middle States.

Our subject migrated to Champaign County, Ohio with his parents in 1840, where they settled on a farm. His education was received in the customary log school-house of those days. He remained with his parents until September 1851, at which time he went to Oregon, in the northwestern part of Missouri, remaining there only a year, when he retraced his footsteps to Illinois, settling at Ridge Farm where he has since resided, and bears the distinction of being the oldest settler but one of the village.

Margaret L. Rice became the wife of our subject, Aug. 13, 1853. She was a daughter of Lewis and Eliza Rice, both of whom are deceased. Eleven children have come to bless this union, seven of whom are living: Lewis W., Lydia, Oliver C., Margaret L., Charles W., Louisa J. and Frank. Lydia is the wife of Evans J. Arnold and resides at St. Augustine, Fla.; she is the mother of two children, Rolla and M. Pearline. Mr. Arnold is Grand Master of the I. O. O. F. of Florida; Oliver married Lucy Castle, is the father of one child, Melvin, and makes his home in Hutchinson, Kan.; Margaret became the wife of Hugh F. Gilkerson and resides at Ridge Farm, where her husband is Township Collector and architect; she is the mother of one son, Noble.

Socially, Dr. Hole is a member of the Masonic fraternity and was Master of the lodge five years. Mrs. Hole is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Doctor sympathizes with the Republican party in his political views. He was Railway Postal Clerk on the Danville and Cairo route for eleven years. In 1861 he established himself as a dentist and has since followed that profession with the exception of the eleven years above mentioned. Our subject has the marriage certificate of one of his ancestors—Willoughby Warder and Mary Howell, who were married June 4, 1696. It is printed and written on parchment and bears the signatures of William Penn, George Whitehead and other noted Quakers. He also has in his possession a lease given his ancestors, to a part of the land where Philadelphia now stands, and which was executed in 1785. Of sterling worth and integrity, Dr. Hole is accorded that tacit respect earned by the pioneer of Illinois, and is a man whose word is considered as good as his bond.

SAMUEL THOMPSON, one of the well-known farmers, now residing on section 35, Elwood Township, was born either in this or Edgar County, Oct. 6, 1835. His father, James Thompson, was a native of Kentucky, and came to the Blue River Valley, Ind., when a young married man, and removed to this county before the subject of this sketch was born. His mother was Elizabeth May, also a native of Kentucky, and died Sept. 14, 1858. The parental household numbered ten children, five of whom are living, viz: William, Thomas, George, Isaac.

and our subject. William and Thomas are residents of this township; George lives in Prairie Township, Edgar County, and Isaac lives in Arkansas City, Kan.

Our subject received his first education at a subscription school, held in a log cabin with puncheon floor, split-log seats with pin legs, and having for desks a log hewed and pinned to the wall. Greased paper also served for window panes; a huge fireplace in one end; clapboard roof. After receiving his education our subject began to shift for himself, and chose farming for his occupation, which he has always followed successfully.

Mr. Thompson was married Aug. 28, 1855, to Miss Osie Crosser, daughter of Jacob Crosser, now deceased, and who was also a pioneer of this county. Mrs. Thompson was born in this township, and has become the mother of seven children: Sylvanus, Sylvester, Flora, Charlie, Dora, Amanda, and William C. Sylvanus married Lucy Mangus; lives in this township, and has two children—Frank and Osie. Sylvester married Minerva Jane Hollingsworth, and lives in this township; they have one child—Verney.

Our subject never was an office-seeker, and religiously is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. His son, Sylvanus, is also a member of that denomination. Mr. Thompson is the proprietor of 175½ acres of fine land. He turns his attention mostly to the raising of stock, his favorites being the graded Short-horn cattle and Poland China swine.

JONATHAN KILBOURN was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, in 1817. His father, Joseph Kilbourn, was a native of Connecticut. His ancestors came to America among the first emigrants and became early settlers of this county. The father was reared in his native State and received a general education, which fitted him for teaching. He removed from Connecticut in the year 1805, and made the trip overland to Pittsburg, Pa., and thence down the Ohio River to Cincinnati, then a very small place. He located near Mt. Pleasant, and bought a tract of timber land and built a log house thereon. He taught school during the winter and the rest of the year released land, and resided in Hamilton County until his death. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Miss Rebecca Howe, a native of the same State as her husband, and who departed this life six weeks after his death, in Hamilton County, Ohio.

Jonathan Kilbourn was a lad of five years when his parents died, and he was left to the care of his elder brothers and sisters until he could take care of himself, which he did at the age of twelve or fourteen years, when he worked out for $4 a month; he continued to work out for several years. He saved his earnings and engaged in the mercantile business in Venice, Ohio, which he continued until the year 1854, when he came to Danville, Vermilion County, and bought sixty acres of land, engaged in farming, and resided there until 1868. He then sold it and bought where he now resides, which consists of 260 acres of land on the east bank of the Vermilion River. He has retired from active labor and his sons run the farm.

Our subject was married on May 12, 1840, to Susan M. Lutes, a native of Butler County, Ohio. By this union there have been six children born to them, viz: Sarah married J. B. Bradford, and resides in California; Perley P. lives in Oregon; Emma, Andrew, William, and Herbert are still under the parental roof.

WILLIAM PATTERSON is the owner of 160 acres of prime land on section 34, Elwood Township, Vermilion County. He was born Feb. 22, 1824, in Granger County, East Tenn. His father was Andrew Patterson (deceased), native of the same State as his son, who brought his family to this county in 1827. They settled at Yankee Point, in this township, among Indians and wild animals, such as deer, wolves, wild hogs, and an abundance of turkeys, pheasants, prairie chickens, and other wild fowl. The pioneers settled in and along the timber, thinking the prairie could never be utilized for anything except grazing. They

went to Sugar and Coal Creeks, in Parke County, Ind., for their milling, but later mills were built over the country run by horse power. The bolting was done by turning a crank by hand.

Our subject endured all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. The maiden name of his mother was Amelia Golden, daughter of William Golden (deceased), who came from Granger County, Tenn., in 1824, settling in this township at Yankee Point. She became the mother of six children, our subject being the eldest. The others are: Thomas, Sarah (Mrs. Campbell), John (deceased), Elizabeth (Mrs. Campbell), and Golden. All live in this county, the girls in Georgetown Township and the boys in this township.

William Patterson led Mary Patty to the marriage altar, Jan. 16, 1853. She is the daughter of Eli Patty, deceased, who came to this county from Carroll County, Ind., in 1847. They have been blessed by the birth of seven children, four of whom are yet living, viz: John, Pleasant, Catherine, and Lincoln. They are all single and still under the home roof. In 1854 our subject went to Broadland, in the southwestern part of Champaign County, Ill., improved a fine farm, and was residing there when Mike Sullivan first started his noted Broadland farm; he remained there until the spring of 1861, when he returned to this township, where he has since resided. Religiously, both Mr. Patterson and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, where much respect is given this worthy old pioneer.

JOHN FOLGER resides on section 25, Harrison's Purchase, Elwood Township, and was born in the same township on Sept. 17, 1829. He was the son of Latham Folger, a whaler, who was taken prisoner while in whaling during the Revolutionary War, by the British, and because he would not consent to fight, was taken to a small rocky island, and left to starve to death, but to his good fortune an American vessel soon came along and rescued him. He was then a resident of Nantucket Island. Benjamin Franklin's mother was a Folger, and was related to Grandfather Folger, being his first cousin. Ex-Secretary of the United States Treasurer Folger, was also a member of the same family.

Latham Folger, the father of the one of whom we write, entered land in the Harrison Purchase, and was a tanner, shoe-maker and a manufacturer of horse collars. He ran a tannery, and the above named trades in Elwood from the spring of 1829 until 1845, when he settled on his land in the southern part of Elwood Township, where he carried on farming extensively. The mother of our subject was Elizabeth Starbuck. She became the mother of ten children, namely: Walter, Erasmus, Matilda, who married a Mr. Haworth, and is now deceased; Lydia, married Mr. Reynolds, and is a twin of Matilda; our subject, Mary, Mrs. Mills; Uriah, Sarah, (Mrs. Dubre), Rachael (Mrs. Ellis) and Thomas. The father died early in the year of 1852, and the mother departed this life in the fall of 1879.

The early life of our subject was spent in the tan-yard, and later he worked on the farm. He obtained his education at the Vermilion Academy and at Bloomingdale, Ind., under Professors Thomas and Hobbs. He then acted in the capacity of a pedagogue for three winters, but finally chose farming for his life occupation. In September, 1852, occurred an interesting event in the life of our subject, namely, his marriage to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Mahlon and Ruth Reynolds. Mrs. Folger first saw the light March 8, 1831, in Parke County, Ind., and remained a resident of that county until her marriage.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Folger has been blessed by the birth of nine children, all living but two. Ida died at the age of twenty-three years; she was a student in the State Industrial College, Champaign, Ill., and a bright and accomplished young lady. Her death was caused by hard study, which injured her brain and ultimately resulted in her death. The remaining children were named, respectively: Alonzo M., Julius, Adolphus D., Romania J., Rachael E., Clotillie and Lottie R. The eldest son, Alonzo, married Carrie Castle; they live in Dana, Ind., and are the parents of one child, a son, Ray. Julius was married to Annie Jordan, is the father of two children, only one of whom is

living, Alvin; he makes his residence in Pontiac, Mich. Romania became the wife of Jacob M. Hollingsworth, resides in Prairie Township, Edgar County, this State, and is the mother of three children—Harry, Esther and an infant girl.

Mr. Folger is the possessor of 154 acres of fine farming land, and has added stock raising to his farming interests. His favorites are the graded Short-horn and full-blooded Durhams, with registered pedigree. He also has some fine horses of the Clydesdale, Norman and Whip breeds. His hogs are the Poland-China and Berkshires.

Mr. and Mrs. Folger, together with their children, have for many years been active members of the Society of Friends, in which communion our subject was a minister. He traveled quite extensively attending the annual meetings at Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Lawrence, Kan., defraying his own expenses. He also attended many of the yearly meetings in Indiana and Oskaloosa, Iowa. He now fills the pulpit at various points in this State and in Indiana. Himself and wife are held in the highest possible regard by a large circle of friends, who recognize in them such character and personal worth as entitle them to a position among the representative citizens of the county.

WILLIAM CHANDLER, a retired farmer and a resident of Bismarck, was one of the earliest pioneers of this county, coming to this region with his parents when a boy of seven years. The country was but little removed from its primitive condition and not many years prior to this was mostly the tramping ground of the Indian. Wild animals were still plentiful and only here and there was erected the cabin of the adventurous settler. Some who came in grew discouraged and moved away, usually returning to their old homes. The Chandler family, however, had come to stay and they prepared themselves for every emergency, labored early and late, endured many hardships and privations and in due time reaped the reward of their toil and sacrifices.

The subject of this sketch was born in Harrison County, Ky., Sept. 5, 1821, and was the fifth in a family of nine children, the offspring of John and Polly (Jones) Chandler. The parents were married in the Blue Grass State, but in 1828 resolved to seek their fortunes in the West and made their way to this county, arriving here on the 16th of November, that year. They located on a tract of wild land in Newell Township, where the father tilled the soil and made some improvements, then, in 1853, sold out and took up his residence in the young town of Danville, where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away in 1859. The mother had died at the farm some time previously.

Our subject remained a member of his father's household until reaching his majority, acquiring a limited education in the subscription schools. Then starting out for himself he settled on a tract of land a short distance from the farm of his father, becoming the owner of fifty-one acres. Shortly afterward, however, he sold this and purchased 140 acres which he improved and which he occupied until 1864. Then selling out once more he changed his residence to Danville where he remained ten years. In 1874 he removed to Bismarck of which he has since been a resident.

Mr. Chandler was married at the age of twenty-three years to Miss Melinda, daughter of William and Mary Cunningham. Mrs. Chandler was the eighth in a family of eleven children. She became the mother of five children and departed this life in 1863. Their eldest daughter, Mary G., is the wife of Andrew Claypool; Emma A. married James R. Hoover and is living at St. Lawrence, Dak.; Rosetta C.; William J. and Laura E. is the wife of Howard S. Hicks of Milford, Ill. In politics Mr. Chandler uniformly supports the principles of the Republican party and at present holds the office of Justice of the Peace and Notary Public. He served two years as Assessor of Newell Township and is one of the representative men of this community. In religious matters he is identified with the Christian Church. He has been an interested witness of the marvelous changes going on in the great West, since he came to years of discretion, and has pursued the even tenor of his way as an honest man and a good citizen, encouraging those projects calculated for the moral elevation of the people

and lending his influence to the enterprises calculated to develop the county. The old settlers are fast passing away and in recounting their names and deeds the career of Mr. Chandler can by no means be allowed to pass unnoticed.

JOSIAH S. SANDUSKY, one of the prominent farmers in this section of Illinois, and one whose operations as a stockman are among the first in this great State, owns and occupies 1,000 acres of land in Carroll Township, where he handles all kinds of stock and fine road and trotting horses. His stock dealings embrace the best strains of blood that can be procured, and in his selections he is aided by great experience and a natural aptitude for the business.

His father and mother, Abraham and Jane (McDowell) Sandusky, were natives of Bourbon County, Ky., the former's birth occurring on March 29, 1793, while the mother was born on Dec. 16, 1792. The grandparents were among the brave pioneers whose fortitude aided in the settlement of Kentucky, and who were constantly in peril by reason of the desperate red men of that region being particularly troublesome. The Sandusky family contains what is commonly known as "blue blood," as it descended from the nobility of Poland. The original Sodowsky, as he spelled and pronounced his name, was a distinguished nobleman of that country, and by reason of his desire to aid the downtrodden, he was forever banished from his native land. He came to America in 1756, and soon was a great favorite with the American colonists. He married the sister of Gov. Inslip, of Virginia, and later on, while in the vicinity of Lake Erie, was brutally murdered by the Indians, who had been imposed upon by the whites, and in the fury of their revenge attacked the first white man they met. This happened to be Sodowsky, their best friend. They regretted their deed very much, and, in order to partly atone for the crime, sought to show their respect to their murdered friend by naming a bay in Lake Erie "Sandusky," from which was named the Ohio city. The mother's people were early settlers and patriots of this country, and the McDowell's were a leading family of Kentucky.

The parents of Josiah had five children when they emigrated to Illinois in 1837, where they settled on the land now owned by the subject of this sketch. The old cabin still stands close to its original site, which was where the magnificent mansion, erected by Josiah in 1872, now stands. The parents continued to prosper for a long time, and were indeed model farmers. Their memory will be cherished by all their acquaintances as noble people. The father died in 1865, while the mother passed away a year previous. Eight children were left to mourn their loss, whose names are herewith given: Harvey, Elizabeth, Polly, Agnes (who died young), William, Abraham, Euphemia Jane, and Josiah. Harvey was the only one of the children who spelled his name in the Polish manner, the rest changing it to Sandusky.

Josiah Sandusky was born in this county on Sept. 11, 1837, and in the township where he now resides he grew to manhood. His father was a most industrious man, and he expected his boys to follow his footsteps in this regard. At the age of six years Josiah was afflicted with the white swelling which crippled him in his left leg. He attended the schools of the township and his education was gained from this source. He succeeded to the management of the farm of 500 acres given him by his father.

Josiah Sandusky was married Dec. 18, 1873, to Miss Susan Moreland, who is a daughter of Thomas and Catherine (Hedges) Moreland, of English ancestry. The latter came to Illinois in 1857, settling in Carroll Township, and were the parents of eight children, who lived to be men and women. Their names follow: Mary E., Margaret Susan, Fannie, William, Peter H., John, Carrie, and Katie. Mrs. Sandusky was a native of Bourbon County, Ky., and removed to Illinois with her parents when she was a little girl of six. She attended the Sister's School at St. Mary's, near Terre Haute, where she acquired a fine education, and is an accomplished lady. Before his marriage Mr. Sandusky erected a brick mansion, upon which he spent $20,000 in building and in beautifying the

grounds, and since that time he has added 500 acres to his farm, making it the most valuable place in this part of the county. His father was a great stockman, and his inclinations all tended to the breeding of fine stock. So it will be seen that the subject of this sketch inherited his love for the business in which he is now engaged. He keeps constantly on hand a large herd of thoroughbred cattle and horses, which he exhibits at the fairs, generally securing prizes and honors. He has sold cattle for breeding purposes in nearly every State in the Union, and his mind does not run to cattle alone. He is a good judge of horses, and owns many fine animals that are prize winners, his specialty being road animals and trotters. He has several horses whose record reaches below 2:20. Sheep, swine, and poultry are also seen on this magnificent estate.

The allurements clustering around official position have never had any charms for Mr. Sandusky, and while he is a thoroughgoing, aggressive Republican, he never permits politics to interfere with his business in any manner.

Mr. and Mrs. Sandusky are the parents of five children, three living, named: Pearl, born Jan. 22, 1878; Abraham J., Oct. 2, 1883; and William H., May 27, 1880. Two died unnamed.

GEORGE BARNETT is the son of one of Vermilion County's earliest pioneers and most highly respected citizens. He is pleasantly located on his farm of 160 acres immediately west of the village of Sidell.

Robert E. Barnett, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a pioneer of Vermilion County, arriving there sometime in 1828 or 1830, coming from Bourbon County, Ky., which was the State of his nativity, he having been born there in 1806. The mother of Mr. Barnett was Miss Rebecca Moore, a native of Ohio. The farm belonging to her father, on which she was born, is now embraced within the limits of Columbus. His grandfather, George Barnett, emigrated to Illinois with his family about 1828 or 1830, and established himself on a farm southeast of what is now the village of Sidell, at the head of Little Vermilion timber.

Robert E. Barnett was a young gentleman of twenty-two or three years when he tried his fortune in Illinois for the first time, but he had received a good education, which was a commodity rather scarce in the wilds of a new country at that time, and was correspondingly highly appreciated. He, therefore, found no difficulty in getting himself appointed to the position of teacher for the district. So far as known, his was the first school to be opened in the township, and he naturally felt somewhat elated to find himself occupying the elevated position of "schoolmaster;" however, pupils were not numerous, and he soon wearied of the monotony inseparable from a country teacher's life, so after teaching a few terms, he abandoned the profession and betook himself to a more lucrative, if not more congenial calling. He engaged in the business of general merchandise at Eugene, Ind. One of the prettiest young ladies in town was a customer at his store, and, being of an obliging disposition, he frequently found it convenient to call at her father's house, presumably to inform them of rare bargains to be had at the store, but by-and-by the services of a minister were requested, and the ceremony that followed secured for the enterprising young merchant a partner whose interest in the business was equal to his own and who engaged for life. Immediately following their marriage the young couple began housekeeping, and remained residents of that city until after the birth of all their children, whose names were: Jane, Alice, Thomas (died unmarried at the age of forty), George, and John. Mr. Barnett continued in the mercantile business in Indiana until the spring of 1858, when he removed to Illinois, on to the farm which had been previously purchased by his father. He conducted the operations of the farm with such energy and prudence that he soon became quite wealthy, owning at one time some sixteen or seventeen thousand acres of excellent land, which was well stocked and improved, but unfortunately for the continuance of his prosperity, he, through misplaced confidence in a supposed friend and honest man, lost about $13,000, which necessitated the putting of his estate into the hands of a receiver at the time of his death.

He departed this life in 1886, at the age of eighty years. The mother survives and makes her home in Danville, at the home of her daughter Alice, where at the age of seventy years, she occupies "grand-ma's corner," and tells the little ones who like to surround her easy chair, story after story of the olden time, which are more fascinating to their youthful minds than the most thrilling fairy tales.

Mr. George Barnett was born September 4, 1848, in Eugene; Ind., and was a small boy when his father moved to the farm in Illinois. The public schools of Eugene numbered him among their brightest pupils, but before he had advanced far in his studies he was obliged to leave consequent upon the removal of the family mentioned above. He pursued his studies for some time longer in the schools of Illinois, but was compelled to abandon the study of books in any regular fashion and betake himself to work at something that would assist the family in the struggle for a livelihood. His first work was begun on his father's farm, when he was about fourteen years old. After some months spent in that manner he was enabled to resume his pursuit of knowledge, and entered the Academy of Moreland, Ind., where he continued one year, studying diligently and making good progress, then returned to the farm and settled down to regular work, which he continued uninterruptedly until he reached his majority.

Mr. Barnett and Miss Lizzie Keys, a native of Washington County, Pa., were married in 1877, at the residence of the bride's parents, William and Emily (Mills) Keys, in Palermo, Edgar Co., Ind. The parents of Mrs. Barnett are well advanced in years, and are passing the evening of life in the quiet enjoyment of their pleasant home in Palermo, Mr. Keys having retired from the active pursuit of his business. Mrs. Barnett was one of a family of eight children, their names being: Harriet, Sarah, Richard, Cassey, Seth, Hugh, Will and Lizzie, who was a mere child when her parents removed from their home, in Pennsylvania, to Illinois.

The family of Mr. Barnett has been increased by the addition of three children: Lena, Alice and Jane. The second daughter died when an infant, the other two are at home attending school, where their bright minds and pleasant manners make them general favorites. Two years before marriage Mr. Barnett formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, L. T. Davis, of Palermo, and entered upon the business of general farming and stock raising. They operate a farm of 960 acres of land, which they have managed for seven years, meeting with good success.

As before stated, Mr. Barnett's father died insolvent, but the two sons, by hard work and good management, succeeded in rescuing a considerable portion of the large estate from the general wreck, so that they now have a tract of 580 acres clear of debt and under good cultivation. In 1882, Mr. and Mrs. Barnett established themselves in their present home, which is one calculated to create in the hearts of the dwellers in crowded cities a longing for the delights of country life. Their home is indeed a charming one, and being situated only about 240 rods from the village postoffice of Sidell, they enjoy all the comforts of rural life and the conveniences of town.

Mr. Barnett was elected Township Clerk several years ago, and has been re-elected every year since, so that he is now serving his sixth term with honor to himself and entire satisfaction to his constituents.

ABNER SNOW was born at Butler's Point, Vermilion County, Oct. 28, 1828, where he has resided continuously since. His father, Marcus Snow, was born in Montpellier, Vt., while his mother, whose maiden name was Annis Butler, was a native of Chittenden County, the same State. Marcus Snow emigrated from Vermont to Ohio but did not remain there long, eventually removing to Vermilion County with James Butler in a very early day. The latter, Mrs. Snow's father, settled at Butler's Point, where the father and mother spent their last days. The parents of Abner Snow were married in Vermilion County and settled where Westville now stands, but lived there only a few years when they removed to Catlin Township, locating on land that was situated on the State road, near the residence

of Jesse Davis. Here the elder Snow and his wife prospered, lived and died. They were among the people who came here when Vermilion County was a wilderness for the purpose of building up a home for themselves and their children and they met with success. Their reputation in their neighborhood was that of honest, hardworking and intelligent people. Mrs. Snow, the mother of Abner, outlived her husband and became the wife of Cyrus Douglas. Marcus Snow is the father of six children, five sons and one daughter, Abner being the second son.

Abner Snow, as has been stated, has always lived in this county, a larger portion of the time in Catlin Township. Here he has successfully followed agricultural pursuits, and is counted as one of the prosperous men in this section. By his inherited industry and good management he has accumulated a fine property and now owns 285 acres of good, rich soil. General farming occupied the most of his time. He was married in this county to a Miss Ashman by whom he is the father of five children: Albert, Jessie, William, Lucius M. and Bertha A.

Mr. Snow is an active Republican, but the allurements of office has little charms for him. He is contented to carry on his fine farm, believing that the honors gained by making a home for himself and children transcend all others.

THOMAS M. MORGAN. The journalistic profession of Illinois finds a worthy representative in the able and popular editor and publisher of the *Sidell Wayside*, who is a man of excellent education, cultivated tastes and literary ability. Before entering upon the sketch of his life, it may be well to devote some space to his ancestors. His grandfather, Daniel Morgan, was a member of a family of Scotch origin, which had settled in Virginia in colonial times. He was a nephew of Gen. Daniel Morgan of Revolutionary fame, and became the grandfather of Gen. John H. Morgan, who bore a prominent part in the Confederate army during the late civil war. He settled in Kentucky about 1790 and resided there until the time of his death in 1869. The father of our subject when a young man learned the blacksmithing trade. During the Mexican war he enlisted in the famous Kentucky regiment known as the Salt River Tigers, only seventeen men of which, out of an enrollment of 104, survived the sanguinary contests of that conflict. He was honorably discharged at Newport Barracks, Ky., after having served two years and eight days. He was married in 1852 to Martha E. Watson, who, like himself, was a native of the Blue Grass State, a member of an old Virginia family who settled in Kentucky at an early date. After following his trade for a short time in Kentucky he removed to Macon County, Ill., and later to Wabash County, Ind., where he died in the year 1882 at the age of fifty-six. Our subject's mother is still living at the age of fifty-two, and resides with her parents near Moweaqua, Shelby Co., Ill. She is the mother of eleven children: Thomas M., Worth M., who died at the age of three; Sylvester V., Sarah J., Olive, Ida M., Mary B., who died at the age of one and a half years; Luella, who died at the age of fourteen; Della A., Estella and Charles W. Sylvester V. is now connected with a prominent Kansas City house; Sarah J. is the wife of Benjamin Phillips, and resides in Wabash County, Ind.; Olive is the wife of Wesley Pyle, a prominent young farmer of Wabash County, Ind. The remainder of the family, with the exception of our subject, are unmarried.

Thomas M. Morgan was born in Anderson County, Ky., May 10, 1853. He was but five years of age when his parents removed to Illinois, where two years of his childhood were spent in Macon County. His parents then removed to Wabash County, Ind., where his young manhood was passed. Having been crippled by an accident at the age of thirteen, his school days were limited to a period twenty months. This accident occurring at the very period of life when an active boy finds most enjoyment, he passed many weary hours while his youthful companions were enjoying the sports fitted to their years. For three years and a half he walked upon crutches, but his mind seemed to develop more rapidly on account of his bodily in-

firmity. He pursued his studies at home, carrying on the work with great zest, and alone and unassisted took up the studies of algebra, geometry, ancient and modern history, and carried on a varied course of reading. At the age of twenty he took up the profession of teacher, his first school being at Stockdale, Wabash Co., Ind. From this time until 1882, he continued in this profession, teaching in different counties in Indiana and Illinois. In 1882 he entered upon a more public life, taking the stump in Indiana as a Submission Democrat, favoring the submission of the prohibition amendment to the people. In 1885, he came to this county and engaged in teaching in the district and graded schools. In the summer of 1887 he became city editor of the Danville Daily and Weekly *Press*, beginning his labors with its first issue, and continuing on the *Press* staff until the succeeding summer, when he was obliged to withdraw on account of his frail health. In the spring of 1889 he took charge of the *Sidell Wayside*. It is a bright, newsy sheet, a credit to southern Vermilion County, and is deservedly enjoying a good circulation. Like a true journalist, Mr. Morgan conducts his paper according to his own best judgment, without regard to fear or favor. Politically the sheet is independent, although the publisher is looking forward to the time when he can publish a red hot Democratic paper, he being a staunch adherent of the principles of Democracy.

Mr. Morgan was married June 7, 1888, to Miss Lulu Montgomery of Coles County, Ill. Her father, Rev. G. W. Montgomery, now of Newman, Ill., is a native of Tennessee and has been identified with the clerical profession since his twenty-eighth year. He now belongs to the Foster Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. His wife, formerly Miss Sarah A. Rankin, was also a native of Tennessee, but grew up in Missouri, where she was married. She was the mother of twelve children, one of whom died in infancy. They are named respectively: John T., Mack A., Mary E., George W., Samuel T., Laura M., U. Lincoln, Lulu S., Carrie M., Donald R., Finis E., the deceased infant having borne the name of Rosa. Mrs. Morgan was born in Caland, Coles Co., Ill., April 2, 1867, and grew to womanhood in her native State, living at various places, where her father served his different congregations. She became a pupil of Bethany Academy at the age of twelve and was also a student in the Southern Illinois College for three years. She is a most estimable young lady of refined character and cultured mind and has been prominently identified with the educational profession in this and in Coles County.

Mr. Morgan is a very well read man and having decided literary tastes, covering a range from the precision and accuracy of Geometry and similar sciences to the imaginative and the descriptive charms of poetry, though perhaps he most enjoys historical writing. He is an ardent admirer of Buckle, Draper, Hume, Macauley, Hegel, Schlegel, Castelar and others. He is not only an admirer of literature in various forms but himself wields the pen of a ready writer and has written dialectic, didactic and lyric poems. Among the former we mention "Them Ol' Fashioned Days;" "When the Days are Groin' Warm and the Fields are Gettin' Green;" "How we worshiped in the Forties." Of his lyric poems: "Songs Unsung;" "The Reward;" "Sorrow;" and "A New Year's Greeting." Among his didactic poems we mention but two: "Two Pictures" and "Dream-seen Days."

Mrs. Morgan is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, while her husband strongly favors the Methodist doctrine.

FRANK CARTER is one of the most popular merchants at Indianola. A prosperous business man in the grocery and queensware line, he has grown up in this neighborhood and is known and respected by everyone. His father, Abraham Carter, came to Illinois at an early date and was married, in Carroll Township, to Eliza A. Bacon, sister of Sarah and Oliver Bacon, sketches of whose lives will be found on another page in this volume. After marrying the father removed to Peoria County and resided there and in Tazewell County seven years. He farmed and was engaged in the butcher business at Peoria, and died in 1869 at Peoria at the age of forty-five years, leaving a wife

and three children—Charles A., Frank A. and William H., now Deputy Circuit Clerk of Vermilion County.

The subject of our sketch was born Oct. 18, 1860, in Tazewell County, this State. About nine years old when his father died he began life under difficulties. His mother moved back to Carroll Township, Vermilion Co., and our subject found a home with an uncle on "Woodlawn Farm" where he remained for twelve years. He attended school at Indianola during the winters and obtained a very fair education. As he grew older he became his uncle's show boy and took great pride in leading the celebrated prize-winners from "Woodlawn" into the show ring. He remained with his uncle until 1884, and in 1886 engaged in the mercantile business with his brother, William H. The latter was the manager until two years ago when his brother Frank took the helm. Besides their store business they purchase wool at Indianola and Villa Grove. and also deal in all kinds of produce. The village of Indianola may well feel proud to own two brothers of the sterling qualities that distinguish these two estimable young men. Their aged mother is well provided and cared for by their filial love. Being yet in the noon of life Frank Carter may well look forward to a bright and prosperous future. Mr. Carter was the choice of the Republicans of Carroll Township for Collector in 1885–86–87, which position he held with credit and honor during his term of office. A member of the Indianola Republican Club he was delegate to the Republican County Convention. He is a charter member of the Indianola Building and Loan Association, and is a strong Republican.

AARON DALBEY. The late Civil War developed some rare characters, the depths of which would probably never have been disturbed had it not been for this revolution which shook the country from turret to foundation stone. There were then brought to the surface that God-given quality—the love of the true man for his native land—and the extent of the sacrifices which he was willing to make to save her from dismemberment. Among all those who are written of in this volume there was probably no truer patriot during the war than Aaron Dalbey, and he justly esteems the period of his life spent in the Union Army as one of the brightest spots in his whole career. We give this matter prominence because it is a subject dear to his heart and he has lost none of the patriotic affection which enabled him a quarter of a century ago to lay aside all personal ties and give his best efforts to the preservation of the Union. We now find him comfortably located in a quiet country home, embracing a well-regulated farm on section 11, in Vance Township, where, since the war, he has gathered around him all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

In reverting to the family history of our subject we find that his father, James Dalbey, was a native of Pennsylvania, a carpenter by trade and in politics an old-line Whig. He married Miss Sarah Sewell, a native of Ohio, April 4, 1820, the wedding taking place in Clinton County, that State. They lived there about fourteen years. Mr. Dalbey engaged as a groceryman, a farmer and an hotel-keeper, conducting the old-fashioned country tavern after the most approved methods of those times.

About this time the lead mines near Dubuque were being opened up and the demand for carpenters was great, so the father of our subject removed thither with his family in 1835, purposing to work at his trade. He found the times very hard and the country peopled largely with desperate characters, among whom a murder was committed nearly every night. This state of things made it impossible for him to remain and so he established himself at Quincy, Ill., where he lived three years and worked at his trade. He then returned to Ohio, where he sojourned two years, and from there removed to Peru, Ind., but only remained there eight months. In August, 1843, he came to this county, and on the 19th of October following passed from earth at the age of fifty-three years. He was a well educated man and especially fine penman.

The mother of our subject survived her first husband for the long period of nearly forty-eight

years. She was born March 12, 1803, and died Feb. 26, 1885, when nearly eighty-two years old. The parental household was completed by the birth of six children, four of whom are living. Aaron, our subject, was the fourth in order of birth, and was born in Clinton County, Ohio, April 25, 1831. He attended school at Quincy, Ill., and also in Ohio a short time and in Indiana, and came to this county in time to avail himself of instruction in the subscription schools here. Being the eldest son, he, after the death of his father, naturally in due time, assumed many responsibilities, and at the age of twelve years worked out for $3 per month, six months, from spring until fall. The year following he was employed by the same man, with an increase of salary of $1 per month.

The mother of our subject was married a second time to James Elliott. Our subject was bound out for a term of six years to Alvin Stearns. Becoming dissatisfied with the arrangement, he served out only half his time, and went to Ohio to learn a trade. He came back to Illinois, however, a year later, and employed himself at whatever he could find to do, being at one time the partner of Aaron Hardin in splitting rails and cord-wood. Their best week's work was forty-eight cords of wood, cut split and piled, and this was done at twenty-five cents per cord, when rails were forty-five cents per 100.

The next most important event in the life of our subject was his marriage, which occurred Dec. 23, 1854, with Miss Martha E. Custer. The newly wedded pair commenced the journey of life together at the old Custer homestead, which is now the property of our subject, and Mr. Dalbey thereafter farmed on rented land until the outbreak of the Civil War. In 1862 he went one day to assist a neighbor with his work, and when he came back with his pitchfork over his shoulder, his attitude and bearing were such that his wife exclaimed when she saw him coming, "there, I bet he is going to the war." He entered the house and asked for some clothing, and in ten minutes was off for Homer, and joining some of his comrades, repaired with them to Camp Butler, and enlisted in Company E, 73d Illinois Infantry.

Mr. Dalbey accompanied his regiment to the front, and first engaged in the battle of Perryville, Oct. 8, 1862. In the early part of the engagement he was in the front line of battle, and had only discharged six or seven shots when a rebel bullet struck him in the right side of the abdomen, passing through the upper lobe of the liver, and came out at the right of the spine, grazing the point of one of the vertebræ. The ball, before entering his body, struck the cap box on his belt, passed through the box and his belt, through his coat, the waistband on his pants, then through his body, and returning cut through the waistband and "body belt," and knocked the handle off the butcher knife on his belt, leaving the blade in its scabbard and glanced off to the rear. He pulled out of the wound a bunch of the wood from his cap box, some cotton-batting from his coat, and a metal primer which he carried in the box. He was taken to the field hospital, and a rubber tube pulled through his body twice. He was then conveyed to the Perryville General Hospital, where he remained until October, 1863, and was then transferred to New Albany, Ind. He was discharged from the hospital there, Jan. 20, 1864.

Mr. Dalbey now returned to his family, and although he has been almost wholly disabled for work since that time he declares he is ready to fight the battle over again if the occasion arises. He and his excellent wife have no children of their own, but have performed the part of parents to a boy and girl, the former the son of a comrade of Mr. Dalbey, who was discharged from the army for disability, and died. The boy Joe H. Summers, became an inmate of their home at the age of seven years, and remained there until twenty-one. He is now married and lives in Mendon, Neb. The girl Mary J. Custer was taken by them when but eleven months old, and is still with them, now grown to womanhood.

It is hardly necessary to say in view of his war record, that Mr. Dalbey, politically, is a decided Republican. He had two brothers in the army, one of whom, Albert, enlisted in Company C, 25th Illinois Infantry, and at Murfreesboro was wounded through the wrist and arm. At the expiration of his first term of enlistment he entered the veteran reserve corps from which he was honorably dis-

charged. Another brother, William H. H., the youngest of the family, was born in 1840, and enlisted in Company D, 63d Illinois Infantry. He was killed by the explosion of a magazine at Columbia, S. C., Feb. 19, 1865, being terribly mangled and blown into a river. He had strength, however, to swim ashore and was taken to the hospital where he died. He had been promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Mr. Dalbey has officiated as Road Overseer, and is a member of Homer Post No. 263, G. A. R.

Jacob M. Custer, the father of Mrs. Dalbey, was, with his wife, Elizabeth Ocheltree, a native of Virginia. They came to Illinois in 1849, settling in this county, but later removed to Champaign County, where the death of Mr. Custer took place, Sept. 17, 1865. His widow subsequently married John L. Myers, who has since died, and Mrs. Myers is now living at Homer, at the ripe age of seventy-nine years. She is the mother of nine children, six of whom are living and of whom Mrs. Dalbey was next to the eldest. She was born Sept. 4, 1836, in Fayette County Ohio, received a fair education and was married at the age of eighteen years. She is a very estimable lady of more than usual benevolence, and is a member of the Homer Woman's Relief Corps, No. 69. She was at one time President of this body, and was presented with a very fine gold badge as Past President by the members of her corps as a token of their appreciation of her worth and services. She has never missed a meeting, either regular or special since its organization, in April, 1887. In religious matters, she belongs to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Dalbey during the days of his early manhood was an expert hunter and has brought down many a deer in this county. He is naturally possessed of great courage and bearing, but is uniformly kind-hearted to all except the enemies of his country.

GEORGE D. HUFFMAN. A man is usually judged by his surroundings, and if they are what he has brought about himself it is safe to say they are a good indication of his character. Mr. Huffman may usually be found at one of the best farms in Newell Township, a homestead which he has built up by his own enterprise, and which, with its substantial improvements and thoroughly cultivated fields, reflects greatly to his credit, his industry and his good taste. It is evident that he planted his standard high, and the evidences of his skill and thoroughness are on every hand. The farm buildings are neat, commodious and convenient; he has a goodly assortment of live-stock, well fed and comfortable, and he avails himself of modern machinery in the cultivation of the soil, which yields him a handsome income. As a member of the community he occupies no secondary position.

The subject of this sketch was born in Harrison County, Ky., May 14, 1829, and is the son of Daniel P. and Elizabeth (Switzer) Huffman, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Maryland. The parents were taken to Kentucky when children, where they attained to manhood and womanhood and were married. There also their ten children were born, eight of whom lived to mature years. In due time they emigrated to Illinois, settling in what is now Newell Township, Vermilion County, where the death of the father took place in October, 1836, while he was in his prime. The mother survived her husband nearly twenty-one years, her death occurring in January, 1857.

The Huffman family came to this region in 1832, where George D., our subject, reached man's estate and where he has since lived. He acquired a common-school education, and like his father before him chose farming for his vocation. After reaching the twenty-fifth year of his age he was married Sept. 18, 1856, to Miss Mary Cox. Mrs. Huffman was born in Parke County, Ind., Aug. 19, 1831, and is the daughter of John and Elizabeth Cox, who were natives of Butler County, Ohio. They left the Buckeye State in 1830, locating in Parke County, Ind., and in 1857 changed their residence to Newell Township, Vermilion Co., Ill., where Mrs. Cox died in July, 1864. The father died in 1872

The record of the seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Huffman is as follows: John F. was born June 21, 1857, and died October 30, 1858; Daniel P. was born December 1, 1858, and died April 3, 1860; George D. was born Feb. 1, 1861, and died

April 3, following: Emily J. was born Feb. 15, 1862; Mary E. May 22, 1865; Edna A. was born Dec. 17, 1869, and died March 6, 1873: Effie M. was born Feb. 5, 1875. Both Mr. and Mrs. Huffman are members in good standing of the Christian Church.

Our subject in connection with general agriculture keeps a goodly quantity of live stock, and has by a course of economy and prudence laid by sufficient to secure him against want in his old age. He has uniformly signalized himself as a liberal and public spirited citizen, taking a warm interest in educational affairs, and serving as School Director and School Trustee for over thirty years. He was Commissioner ot Highways six years, and has held other positions of trust and responsibility. Without any desire for the spoils of office, he has kept himself thoroughly posted in regard to matters of general interest, and gives his unqualified support to the Democratic party.

GEORGE DILLON, Esq., was born in Georgetown, Vermilion Co., this State, Jan. 16, 1837. His father and grandfather were natives of North Carolina and removed to Ohio in the early settlement of that State. They settled several miles south of Cincinnati, where they bought timbered land and resided there until the death of the grandfather. The father, Luke Dillon, was fifteen years old when his parents moved to Ohio, where he grew to manhood and married and resided until 1830, when he came to Vermilion County accompanied by his wife and six children. The journey was made with a six-horse team, bringing his household goods, while the party cooked and camped on the way. He located near the present site of Georgetown and bought a tract of land, where he resided in a log cabin for a time, when he built one of the first frame houses in that section of the country and resided there until his death. His son George attended the early schools of his native county and resided with his father, assisting him on a farm until the death of the latter and then remained with his brothers and sisters until the age of twenty-one. He then brought a farm near Georgetown, where he remained until enlisting in the army, in 1862. He was a member of Company D, 25th Illinois Infantry, where he served until February, 1865. He was in the battles of Perrysville, Ky., Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, and was with Sherman when he started from Chattanooga to the Atlantic and served in various battles and skirmishes until June 7, when he was wounded in the right arm and sent to the hospital, where his arm was amputated close to the shoulder and he returned home in February, 1865. A strong Republican in politics he has held several offices. In 1866 he was elected Town Clerk of Georgetown. In 1867 he was elected Assessor and Collector and re-elected in 1868. In the fall of 1868 he was elected Circuit Clerk of Vermilion County, and twice re-elected and held office for twelve years. In April, 1889, he was elected Justice of the Peace and in 1887 was elected Assistant Supervisor.

George Dillon married, in 1861, Miss Desdemona F. Martin, born in Georgetown in 1841. She was the daughter of Henry and Mary Martin, who were among the early pioneers of Vermilion County. They had six children: Lucretia, Alma, Hannah, William S., Grace, Joseph G. and Robert M. Since his retirement from public life he has not been engaged in any active business but has dealt some in real estate. Mr. and Mrs. Dillon are active and energetic members of the Christian Church and are among the most respected and estimable people in the community.

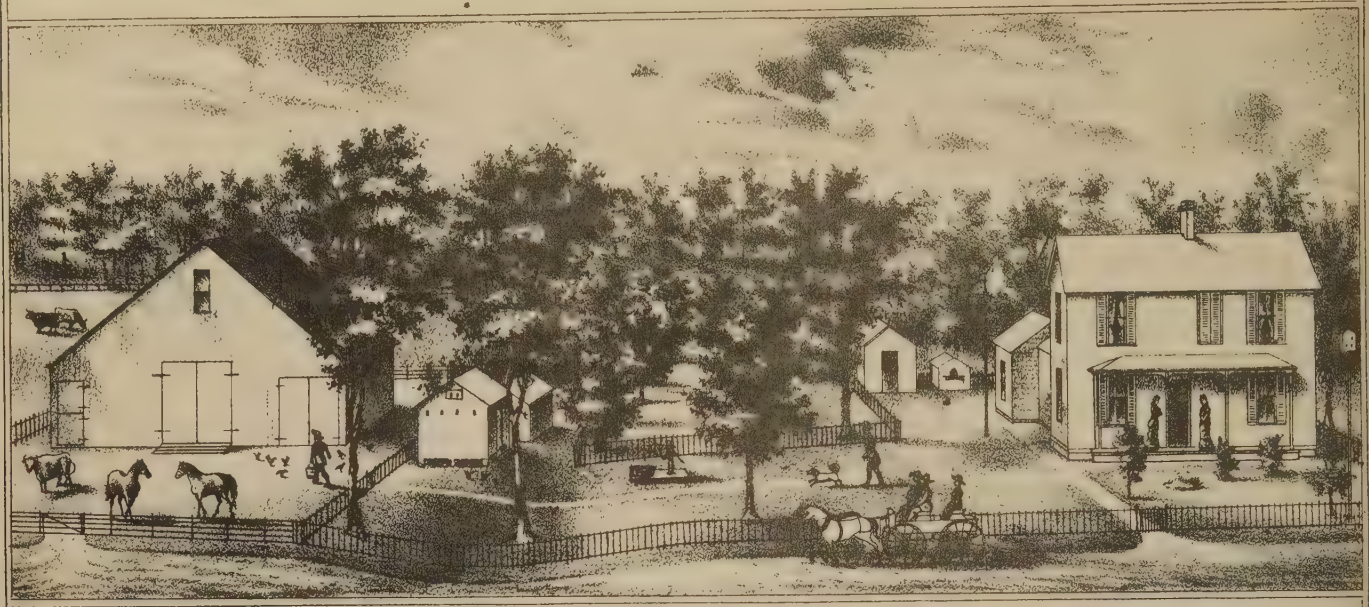
BUELL TILLOTSON, a skillful, practical farmer, is quietly and prosperously carrying on his farming operations on his farm, one of the best and most highly productive of Pilot Township, very pleasantly located on section 36. He is a native of Indiana, born in Warren County, Sept. 23, 1847. His grandparents on both sides of the house were pioneers of Ohio in the early days of its settlement. His father, Ephraim Tillotson, was born in Miami County, that State, in 1811. his ancestors being of English

origin and he a descendant of the same branch of the family as that famous English divine, Archbishop Tillotson. The mother of the subject, whose maiden name was Mary A. Cronkhite, was also born in Miami County. After her marriage with the father of our subject, they came westward to the State of Indiana, and located in Warren County, and from there removed to Vermilion County, Ill., where the father died in 1884. The mother survives at an advanced age and makes her home on a farm in Vermilion County. Of her marriage twelve children were born, of whom the following eight are living: Walter, a farmer of this county, married Lucetta Endicott; Madison, who lives in Louisiana, married Kate Goodwine, and they have three children: Luther, a farmer, married Mary E. Myrick, and they have five children; Wallace, a farmer of this county, married Emily French, and they have three children; Buell is our subject; Sarah married Edward Foster, of Indiana, now living in this county, and they have seven children; Rebecca married J. K. Buettz, a retired farmer of Potomac, and they have six children; Frances married Alonzo W. Knight, a farmer of this county, and they have four children; Mary married Frank Henry, a retired farmer of this county, and they have two children.

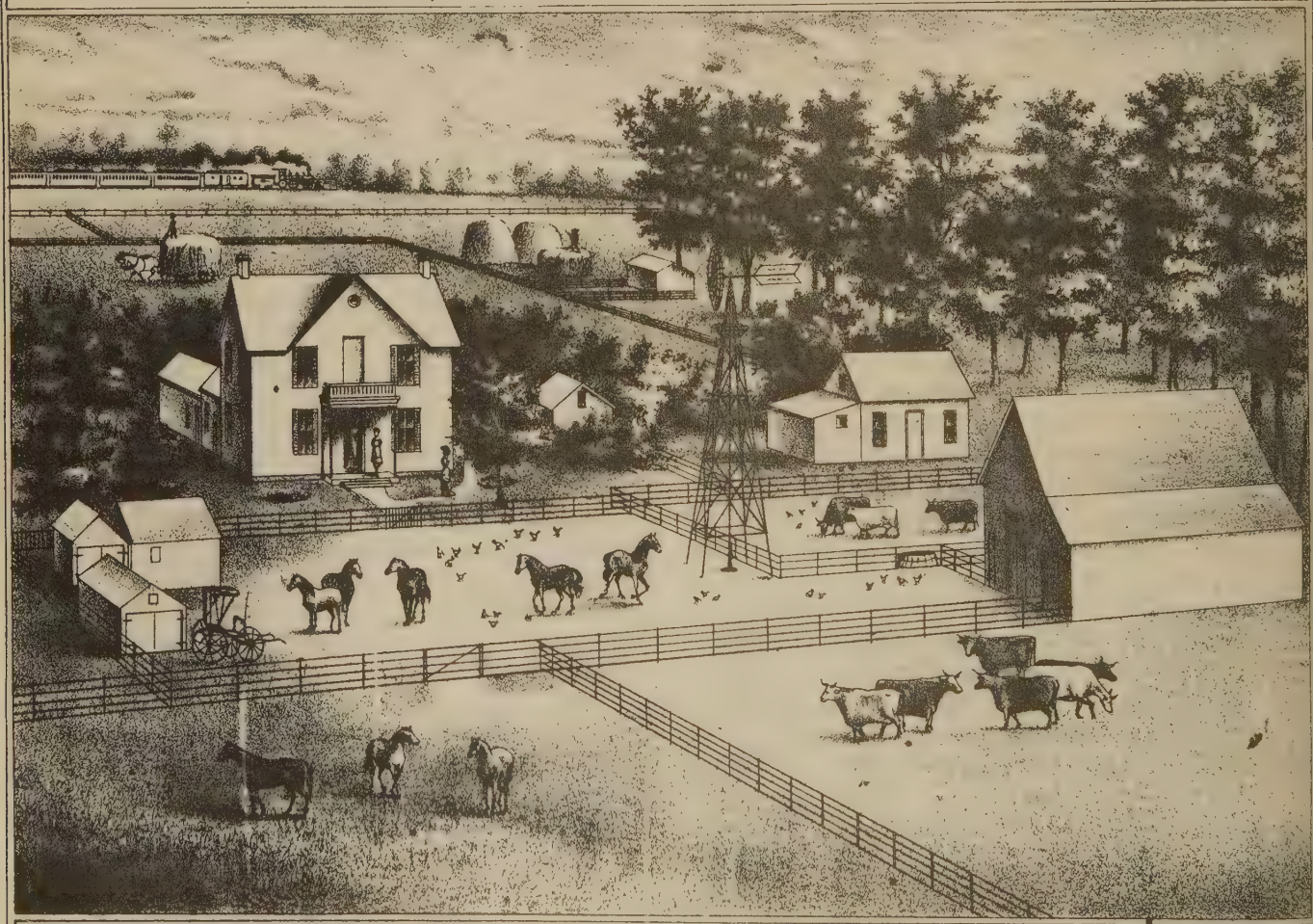
Buell Tillotson gleaned a good education in the common schools, and a practical training at home that fitted him to cope with the world when he became independent. He came to Illinois in 1856 with his father. When he began life on his own account he did not have the wherewithal to buy land for himself, and as he was very desirous to carry on farming he rented a farm. He met with such good success in that venture that in a few years, by unremitting toil and frugal economy, he was enabled to lay up money enough to buy a farm of his own, and he became the possessor of one comprising 160 acres of land of unsurpassed fertility, and now has it under good cultivation, and has made many substantial improvements that have greatly increased its value, and he has established a cozy, comfortable home for his family. He is engaged in mixed husbandry, and besides raising grain and other products common to this climate, raises stock, all that his farm will carry.

Mr. Tillotson was married April 8, 1885, to Miss Lizzie Wiles, daughter of Aaron and Margaret Wiles, residents of Vermilion County, Ill. She was born in this county, and was one of three children, of whom two are living at the present time, Mrs. Tillotson and her brother, Lankford Wiles. The father, Aaron Wiles, died in 1869, and his widow married again in 1873, being then united with Thomas P. Mryic, by whom she had one child, a daughter, Myrta, now ten years old. The wedded life of our subject and his excellent wife has been blessed to them by the birth of two children, of whom one alone lives, Lucetta.

The great-uncle of our subject, Simon Buell, (who was also an uncle of Major-General D. C. Buell of the late war) was a Revolutionary soldier, Indian fighter, and pioneer, and could tell many interesting and thrilling stories of adventures and hair-breadth escapes from Indian tomahawks, in connection with the settlement of eastern Ohio and western New York. When a boy he was once captured by the Indians, but escaped in company with two men, and with them traveled night and day until they arrived at an American settlement. One night they slept in a pit, around which something stealthily crept all night, peering over at them with eyes like coals of fire. The lad saw and watched all the movements of the animal with quivering but suppressed excitement, but the others slept through the danger, and he feared to awaken them lest the noise would endanger their lives, and as he was between the two he thought if it jumped on any of them it would be on those outside. When morning came the animal left with wild, mournful screams that made the woods ring, and then they discovered that it was a panther. Another incident illustrates the animosity existing between the Tories and Whigs at the close of the Revolutionary War, as well as the coolness and courage of one of those brave veterans. Mr. Buell had returned to his farm only to find it devastated by the invading armies, and was one day walking over it, viewing the ruins and thinking how best he could rebuild the burned house and fences, when a bullet whistled close to his ear. He knew at once that it was from a Tory enemy, and also concluded from the interval between the whistle of the bul-



Residence of JOHN N. ENGELMANN. *Sec. 22 (T. 19 R. 12) Catlin Township, Vermilion County.*



Residence of GEO. M. VILLARS. *Secs. 7 & 12, Danville Township, Vermilion County.*

let and the report of the gun that it was at long range. Instantly his mind was made up, and without stopping or changing his gait in the least he leisurely sauntered on, wishing to make his enemy believe he had not even heard the shot. The ruse was successful, as the shot was not repeated.

Our subject is a quiet, unassuming man, with much force and decision of character, however, and his place in this community is among its best and most deserving citizens. He and his wife are worthy members of the Christian Church, as is attested by their conduct in the every-day affairs of life. Mr. Tillotson is a firm ally of the Republican party, taking an intelligent interest in political matters. He has served on several juries, and is in every way fitted to perform the duties attendant upon good citizenship.

JOHN N. ENGELMANN is entitled to representation in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM as an intelligent, practical member of the farming community of Vermilion County. He is classed among our self-made men, as he began life with no capital, but a sturdy, self-reliant, capable manhood, and has become independent and prosperous, and, as old age approaches, finds himself in possession of a comfortable competence, and well fortified against want and poverty. His farm on section 22, Catlin Township, is provided with an excellent class of buildings, and its soil is admirably tilled, yielding abundant harvests in repayment for the labor and money bestowed on it.

Our subject was born in Prussia, July 29, 1828, and is the son of John Nicholas and Margaret (Kimmel) Engelmann. The wife died in Germany. The father subsequently emigrated to this country, and after a time removed to Du Quoin, Ill., where he died. The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in his native country, but in the early years of his manhood he determined to cross the Atlantic and seek in the United States of America the prosperity denied him at home. In March, 1854, he left the beloved Fatherland on an American-bound vessel, and twenty-eight days later the ocean was between him and the familiar scenes amid which he had been reared. He disembarked at New York and made his way from that city to Summit County, Ohio, where he engaged in digging coal, which employment he had followed in the Old Country. He lived in different places in Ohio till 1857, when he came to Vermilion County to avail himself of the many advantages it offered a poor man to make his way to comparative affluence. Liking the country here, he decided to remove his family to this county, and settle here permanently. At first they lived in Danville Township, but a year later Mr. Engelmann came to Catlin Township with his wife and children, and rented a farm five years; and at the same time he worked in the coal mines in the winter, carrying on his farming operations during the other seasons of the year. In 1864 he had been so prudent and industrious, that he had managed to save up quite a little sum of money, and was enabled to purchase eighty acres of land, which is included in his present farm. In the busy years that followed he made many valuable improvements, erecting a substantial, well-built dwelling, a good barn and other neccessary outbuildings, and placed his land under a high state of cultivation, devoting himself entirely to agricultural pursuits. He bought more land, and his farm now comprises 120 acres of fine farming land that compares in fertility and productiveness with the best in the township.

During these years of toil Mr. Engelmann has not been without the assistance of a good wife, who has been to him all that a faithful helpmate could be. They were united in marriage in their native Prussia, in September, 1853. Her maiden name was Maria Schuetz, and she was born Dec. 18, 1834. She is the daughter of Michael and Maria (Graser) Schuetz), who emigrated to this country and were buried in this township. Their happy wedded life has been blessed to Mr. and Mrs. Engelman by the birth of eight children, as follows: Nicholas, Jacob, Mary F., Margaretta S., John W., Sophia, Charles and Elizabeth; all are living.

In our subject his fellow-townsmen find those desirable qualities and manly traits of character

that make him a useful citizen and a good neighbor, one in whom they may place their trust with a surety that it will not be abused. In politics he is a Republican, and faithfully supports his party at the polls. Religiously, he and his wife are exemplary members of the Lutheran Church, and carry their Christian faith into their everyday lives.

A fine lithographic view of the handsome residence, farm and outbuildings on the place of Mr. Engelmann is shown elsewhere in this work.

HENRY PUZEY. Colonies of Englishmen have settled in various portions of the West, composed of people who were well-to-do in their own country and the sons of wealthy parents. In a great many instances they have found the country contrary to what they pictured it, and becoming discouraged, have returned to their native country. The majority of the people spoken of came here imbued with the idea that dollars grew on bushes, and that it required no effort to march along to prosperity. In all this they were mistaken. Labor is its own reward in America, as well as in other parts of this world. The man whose name heads this sketch was a well-to-do and representative business man of London, having been connected with one of the leading dry goods houses of the metropolis of the world. He is a gentleman of refinement, education, and possesses knowledge of the world, and without any previous experience that agriculture gives, he came here to win a place as a farmer, and he has met with unqualified success. All the characteristics of Mr. Puzey bear out the assertion that he is a typical English gentleman.

His father, Joseph Puzey, was a native of England and a man prominent in his country. His mother was descended from France and her name was Beatrice Blanche before her marriage. Her people during the time of the French Revolution sought safety on the British Island and eventually became English subjects. The father died in England, and was seventy years old, while the mother is still residing in England and is eighty-five years of age. She reared ten children to maturity, of which but three are living in America: Henry, Thomas and Albert. Henry, of whom this sketch is written, is the oldest child, and was born Aug. 16, 1826, in Berkshire, England. His early education was such as was obtainable in the private schools of his own class and those connected with the Episcopal Church. He passed his entire childhood under his father's roof on the farm in Berkshire, and as he grew up he desired to enter mercantile pursuits, and under the direction of his father he was apprenticed to the dry goods house owned by his father's brother, Henry Puzey, at Bow, London, where for five years he served an apprenticeship, his father paying forty pounds sterling as tuition, clothing him beside. Showing a great deal of natural aptitude for his chosen vocation, he remained with this house during the five years of his apprenticeship and four years longer, receiving an annual salary varying from twenty to forty pounds sterling from his first to his last year in that business.

The years of manhood were now dawning upon him, and as time passed by his inclination grew stronger to see more of the world, and so his attention was naturally directed to America. His experience in London was very valuable to him as a business man. In the latter part of April, 1850, he crossed the Atlantic, landing at Castle Garden, New York City. From the metropolis of the New World he came directly to Vermilion County. Land was very cheap in Illinois at that time, yet with all his money he could scarcely buy forty acres. Here he was, almost at the end of civilization, without means and without experience save as a dry goods clerk in London. He was about to conclude that he had made the great mistake of his life, but a determined will to succeed kept him steadily and persistently following out his original idea of growing up with the American West. After remaining here seven years he returned to England, where, in 1857, he was married to Miss Hannah, daughter of James and Elizabeth Rymer, who were well-to-do farmers of Gloucestershire, England. Both her parents were born at the same place, and after a lifetime of industry and prosper-

ity, died at seventy and sixty years respectively. Mrs. Puzey was brought up in Gloucestershire, where she was educated in good private schools, and her early religious instruction was in the Episcopal Church. Mr. and Mrs. Puzey remained eighteen months in their native land, before they took their final departure for their new home in America, where they arrived, after a pleasant journey, in the latter part of 1858. Through the intelligent use of his opportunities and enhanced by an endowment from his wife's estate, Mr. Puzey has prospered and become independent, financially speaking. He has become a most excellent farmer and is a thorough American at heart.

Mr. Puzey owns two farms, the homestead containing 340 acres, and operated by himself, and a quarter section upon which he has tenants. Mr. and Mrs. Puzey have five children: Joseph, James R., Thomas, Francis E. and Henry, all of whom are at home. Mr. Puzey's career is a brilliant illustration of the fact that a poor man is better off in America than in England, and that success is always a reward of industry. This worthy couple are members of the Episcopal Church of England.

ALANSON N. ALBRIGHT. Farming, there is little doubt, stands at the front of all the industries, for without it men could scarcely exist and carry on the multitudinous labors of the world. As time passes it is coming to be looked upon in its true light as an art and a science, and is being prosecuted by some of the most intelligent and able men living. While many are interested in other projects besides, he who has a surplus amount of capital invests it wisely when he devotes a portion of it to the acqisition of landed estates and the tilling of the soil. The reputation of this county as a dwelling place, the richness of its resources and its standing to-day is mainly due to the excellence of its farming population. Among the men who have assisted it to its present position may be most properly mentioned the subject of this sketch.

Alanson Albright represents valuable farm property to the amount of 400 acres of land in Ross Township, and occupies a well-regulated homestead on section 20. After bringing his land to a good state of cultivation he turned his attention largely to live-stock, and thus laid the foundation of a snug fortune. His career has been signalized by that honesty and integrity which has gained him the respect of his fellow citizens and raised him to an enviable position in his community. He was born June 12, 1824, in Ohio, and is the son of David Albright. His father was George Albright, Jr., he was the son of George Albright, Sr., the two latter natives of Switzerland, where the great-grandfather of our subject reared his family and spent his entire life.

George Albright, Jr., the paternal grandfather of our subject, emigrated from the land of William Tell with his brother Jacob, when they were boys, and they sold themselves to a Lancaster County, Pa., farmer, Mr. Grubb, for three years to pay their passage across the ocean. In view of this fact it is believed they ran away from home. Grandfather Albright served his three years and then was married in Berks County, Pa., to Miss Barbara Cradlebaugh, prior to the Revolutionary War. As the conflict increased in importance he finally left his young wife and shouldering a musket entered the army and served under Gen. Anthony Wayne for seven years. Jacob was also in the army at the same time. After the close of the war Jacob Albright located in York County, Pa. Notwithstanding his early escapade he was piously inclined, and turned his attention to religious matters, organizing the Albright Church, and giving his life to the ministry thereafter. He spent his last years in York County. Grandfather Albright settled on Dunkin's Island, in Perry County, Pa., where he spent the remainder of his life. At that place was born his son, David, the father of our subject. To the old Revolutionary hero there was awarded by the Government 640 acres of land in what afterward became Ohio Territory and upon which is now situated the City of Columbus. This property naturally fell to David, and he, in 1796, visited it, and considering it of little value, returned East and located in Virginia, where he employed himself at his trade of distiller two years. At the

expiration of this time, returning to Pennsylvania, he was married to Miss Phebe Newman. In due time there was formed a little settlement in Fairfield Bounty, Ohio, and the father of our subject traded his land for a mare, a cow and $25 in money. The family removed to that county in the meantime, and there our subject was born, in Perry Township, June 12, 1824. Soon afterward his parents removed to Pickaway County, in the same State, where he was reared.

To the parents of our subject there were born the following children, namely: Samuel, Betsy, Hannah, Alanson N., Louis, Jackson, Polly, Oliver P. and Frederick. Five of them are living and located mostly in this county. In 1840 the parents resolved upon another change of residence, and removed to Clinton County, Ind., where they experienced all the hardships and privations of frontier life. George Albright was an expert hunter, a sport in which he took great satisfaction and delight. He lived to be about ninety years old. The mother passed away at the age of eighty years.

Our subject was a youth of fifteen years when he removed with his father's family from Ohio to Indiana. About that time he started out for himself, and engaged by the month to drive cattle from Indiana to the Eastern markets. He was then employed until the fall of 1855. In the meantime he was married, Jan. 10, 1854, to Miss Jane, daughter of William Beevens, of New York State. In 1843 he made his way to this county and herded and drove cattle, prior to the time of any settlement within its limits. It was he who named Bean Creek. About 1858 he began farming in Vance Township, but afterward made several trips East with stock. He also visited the South, selling stock in several of the Southern States, as well as the East.

The parents of Mrs. Albright came to this State probably early in the fifties. Mrs. Albright died in 1859, while a young woman, leaving no children. Our subject, on the 17th of November, 1861, contracted a second marriage with Miss Ama Plevins; of this there was two children, one is still living. His second wife died in 1858. The daughter's name is Hannah Jane. His third wife was Athinda, daughter of Henry and Eve (Hamaker) Groves. This union resulted in the birth of seven children, namely: Susan, Mrs. W. R. Braden of this county; George W. D., Mary E. C., Frederick R., Charles P., Aaron J. K. and Laura A. M., all of whom are living. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Albright was George Grove, a native of Holland, where he spent his entire life and reared his family. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, their marriage occurring in Dauphin County, Pa. They settled in Sangamon County, Ill., in 1824, where they spent the remainder of their lives. The Hamaker family also located there at an early day. Grandfather Grove and his wife were devout members of the German Baptist Church. Grandfather Hamaker was a preacher in this Church. Mrs. Albright belongs to the Christian Church.

Mr. Albright cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Taylor. Further than keeping himself well posted upon current events, he has had little to do with public affairs or the responsibilities of office. He is, however, President of the Agricultural Society of Ross Township, and belongs to the Masonic Fraternity, Lodge No. 527, at Rossville, of which he is a charter member. He has been a Mason for the long period of forty-five years, becoming identified with the fraternity in Circleville, Ohio.

GWILSE TILTON is a prominent merchant and Postmaster in the township, in which he lives. His father Enoch Tilton, was born in Fayette County, Pa. His mother Elizabeth Wilson, was born in Beaver County, of the same State. They settled in the place of her birth, and from there moved to Ripley County, Ind., in 1844. It was here that Mr. Tilton died. Not long after this, his wife also died at Potomac, this county, in 1887, leaving a family of nine sons, of whom our subject was the second. The place of his birth was Beaver County, Pa., and the time Jan. 8, 1836. In 1862 he traveled to this county, and taught school for four years. Thus far thirteen years of his life had been spent in teaching, as he had been a school-master nine years prior to his coming to Vermilion County. He then found employment as

clerk under the late Richard James. This position he kept for two years, after which, in 1868 he formed a partnership, and went into business for himself. Eventually Mr. Tilton bought out the entire business, which he has since conducted in his own name. He carries an unusually fine stock of merchandise. In addition to his store at Catlin, he owns one which is operated by his son.

Mr. Tilton was appointed Postmaster under the administration of Cleveland. He had held the office of Superintendent, and almost all the offices in the township. For fourteen years he was connected with the Vermilion County Agricultural Society, being its President for three months, and its Vice-President for several years. Our subject is a member of the Catlin Lodge A. F. & A. M., No. 285, and was Master of the lodge five years.

Our subject's life is a noble record of vast energy, untiring labor, and fervent, and unfading courage. Those who knew him familiarly, loved and valued him more and more, the longer their intercourse lasted. His marriage with Elizabeth Albright, occurred in Ripley County, Ind. They had three children: Charles Virgil, who is in company with his father; Elsie Venus, who is the wife of A. McGregor; and Bertie Victor. Mr. Tilton has been a correspondent of the Danville *News* for fifteen years. Mr. Tilton is rather a reserved man, and boasts very little of the good and loveable traits and sentiments which he so happily possesses.

JOHN W. GIDDINGS, a prominent citizen of Danville, and a native of that place, was born April 21, 1842. His father, William Giddings, was born in Bedfordshire, England, and was there reared and married. He was the only member of the family that came to America. He learned the trade of a wagonmaker in his native land, and was a journeyman till 1837, when He sailed from London early in that year, and was a journeyman till 1837, when he sailed from London early in that year, and in due time landed at New York. He came directly to Danville, the journey being made by the way of the lakes, canal and teams. When he came to Danville he was wealthy in everything but money, that is to say, he was in the possession of good spirits and of any amount of hope. The town was then a small place. He at once commenced work at his trade as a journeyman, and with his savings he bought his employer's business, and engaged in the manufacture of wagons and plows. The plows he first made were constructed with wooden mould boards. The forests were searched to find trees that had the right shape for this portion of the plow. Later he manufactured carriages, wagons and steel plows, and in this business he built up an extensive trade, in which he was engaged until the time of his death, which occurred in September, 1875. For many years there was no railroad built to Danville, and he procured his supplies from Cincinnati by teams. After a few years Chicago became the commercial center, and he changed his place of buying to that place, but still the only mode of transportation was with horses or oxen. The maiden name of his wife and the mother of the subject of this article, was Caroline Kitchener. She was born in Bedfordshire, England, and died in Danville in 1874. Herself and her brother Charles were the only members of her family that came to America. Charles settled near Worcester, Mass., and is now deceased. In the family of William Giddings were nine children, eight of whom are living: Fannie is the wife of John J. Partlow, and lives in Danville; Caroline is dead; Charles, George and Albert live in Danville; Eliza married Harvey Riggs, and is now residing in Spink County, Dak.; Laura is the widow of Edwin Martin, and lives in Danville.

John W. Giddings was educated in the schools of his native city, and when but a boy commenced work in his father's shop, and thoroughly learned the art of carriage painting. He thus continued at work until May, 1862, when he enlisted in Company A, 71st Illinois Infantry, for the period of ninety days. He was sick nearly all the time of his service, and was discharged in October, 1862, when he returned home, remaining ill for one year after his return. He again entered the army, in May, 1864, this time enlisting in the 135th Illinois Infantry, serving until the following fall, when he

was discharged on account of the expiration of his term of service. In 1865, with his brother Charles, and brother-in-law, O. S. Stewart, a partnership business was formed under the firm name of Giddings, Stewart & Co., the firm succeeding to his father's business. This firm continued four or five years in business, when he and his brother bought the interest of Mr. Stewart, and so continued until 1876, when he purchased his brother's interest also, and was thus the sole proprietor. In 1879 he formed a partnership with James A. Patterson, adding to the business.

On the 13th of January, 1867, Mr. Giddings married Samantha A. McKee, who was born in Georgetown, this State. She was the daughter of Elijah and Abigail (Starr) McKee. Mr. McKee was born in Fleming County, Ky. Mr. McKee's father, the grandfather of Mrs. Giddings, was born in Pennsylvania, and emigrated to Kentucky at an early day. He resided there until 1838, when he came to Vermilion County, the trip being made with teams. He settled two miles east of Danville, and bought timber land and built a log house. He resided on the old farm until his death. The father of Mrs. Giddings was eighteen years old when he came to this county. He taught school several terms, and at the time of his marriage was learning the trade of a wagon-maker. He followed this occupation until 1860, when he was elected to the office of Clerk of the Circuit Court, a position he held eight years. His death occurred March 5, 1869. Mrs. Giddings maternal grandfather, Absalom Starr, removed from Ohio to this State in 1821. The journey was made with ox teams. They remained awhile near Palestine, Ind., and while there the mother of Mrs. Giddings was born. They came to Danville in 1821, and Mr. Starr is among the first settlers of Vermilion County, his deed being the first one ever recorded on the county books. The land is located two miles west of Georgetown, and was originally heavily timbered. He resided here on the old homestead until his death. His wife survived him many years, dying at the age of eighty-seven.

John W. Giddings has inherited, in a full measure, the characteristics of his father. He is an energetic, capable and honorable business man, and though his father came here a poor man, and at the time of his death was one of the wealthiest men of Danville, there is no doubt but that the junior Giddings would have followed in the footsteps of his worthy father had he been placed in his position. Mr. Giddings has a beautiful residence, built in 1887, and located on Hazel street, where he lives happily with his family. Mr. and Mrs. Giddings worship at the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a member of the Odd Fellows.

WR. CHANDLER. The life of a good man in a world containing so much of sin and sorrow, shines out like the noonday sun and redeems the earth from the gloom which would otherwise envelop it. The early settlement of the Great West developed many brave and courageous spirits who encountered untold difficulties in the struggle of life on the frontier, and who in addition to bravely fighting the battles which immediately beset them, also lent a helping hand to their fellow creatures, stimulating them to exertion at the time which tried men's souls and enabled them to breast the waves and reach a safe harbor.

These thoughts are suggested in recalling the history of Mr. Chandler, now of Bismark and who has been a resident of this county most of the time for the long period of sixty-one years, having come here as early as 1828. It is hardly neccessary to say that the soil of this region had then scarcely been pressed by the foot of a white man. Indians, prairie wolves and other dangerous creatures were plentiful, also deer and wild game of all kinds. It was some years before rapid settlement commenced, and he, who first ventured into these wilds practically took his life in his hands. The extraordinary change which has passed over the face of the of the country during the last half century has been witnessed by our subject with that warm interest and satisfaction which can only be felt by the intelligent and thoughtful mind. Now over a once uncultivated waste are seen beautiful farms

and prosperous villages and a vast population occupying themselves with agricultural and various other industries needed to serve so great a country. In bringing about this condition of things, Mr. Chandler may be properly classed among those men who have contributed their full quota to the present wealth and well-being of Illinois.

A native of Harrison County, Ky., Mr. Chandler was born Dec. 5, 1821, and is the son of Jehu and Polly (Swinford) Chandler, the former a native of Wilmington, Del., and the latter of Harrison County, Ky. The parents of our subject came to Illinois in 1828, locating first in Newell Township, Vermilion County, where they resided until 1854. Then, laying aside the more active duties of life, they removed to Danville, and Jehu Chandler rested from earthly labors in February, 1859. The mother that same year returned to Newell Township, where her death took place in April, 1862. Their remains rest side by side in Walnut Corner Cemetery, Newell Township.

The subject of this sketch was in the seventh year of his age when he came to Newell Township with his parents, and this with the exception of ten years has since remained his home. He followed carpentering in Danville from 1864 to 1874, then returned to Newell Township and still continued to work as a carpenter until 1880. In 1882 he commenced buying and shipping grain of all kinds, paying the highest market price and realizing therefrom a handsome profit. In the meantime he became prominent in local affairs and was recognized as one of the most liberal and public-spirited citizens of his township. He served as Assessor during the years 1859-60 and in 1860 was elected Justice of the Peace, which position he held four years. Prior to this he was elected School Director and Township Trustee, and ever maintained his warm interest in the cause of education and all of those projects having for their object the moral welfare of the people.

Mr. Chandler was again brought to the front in 1885, being elected Justice of the Peace, serving his time acceptably, and was re-elected in 1889. To the duties of this office he has brought that sound judgment and temperance of action which have gained him the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has dealt. From 1885 to 1889 he officiated as a Notary Public.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Malinda Cunningham was celebrated Nov. 21, 1844. This lady was the daughter of William and Mary Cunningham, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The latter soon after their marriage removed to Harrison County, Ky., and thence, in 1829, to Newell Township, Vermilion Co., Ill., where they spent the remainder of their days. The mother died in September, 1844. Mr. Cunningham survived his wife a number of years, passing away in May, 1852. Their remains were laid to rest in what is known as Brierly Cemetery, in Newell Township. Mrs. Chandler was reared principally in Newell Township, and by her union with our subject became the mother of the following children: Mary J., Emma, Ann, Rosetta C., William J. and Laura E., all of whom are living, but the mother passed to her long home Sept. 5, 1863. She was a lady of many excellent qualities and a consistent member of the Christian Church, in the faith of which she died. Her remains repose in Brierly Cemetery. Mr. Chandler has been identified with the Christian Church forty-three years. In 1874 he took up his residence in Bismark, which was laid out in 1872. He keeps himself well posted in regard to State and National affairs, and is a strong Republican in politics. No man in the county stands higher, and none are more deserving of the esteem and confidence of their fellow-men.

CHARLES W. WARNER, editor and proprietor of the "Hoopeston Daily and Weekly *Chronicle*," is conducting the only daily paper in the county outside of Danville. He is making of it a newsy, local sheet, pleasing to the people most concerned and in connection therewith is building up a thriving job department. He is a gentleman enterprising and intelligent, an easy and forcible writer and evidently possessed of the proper idea in connection with running a local paper. The interests of the people of this section

are held uppermost and the *Chronicle* has become one of its indispensable institutions.

The first three years of the life of our subject were spent in Montgomery County, Ind., where he was born Jan. 24, 1857. In 1860 his parents removed to West Lebanon in the same State, where they lived four years, then changed their residence to Rossville, in this county, and in this latter place Charles W. completed his education by attendance at the High School. He subsequently taught school two terms in Champaign County, near Homer. Later he assumed the duties of Deputy County Clerk under John W. Dale at Danville and from there came to Hoopeston in February, 1879, and became associated with the *Chronicle*, assisting in both the editorial and mechanical departments of the paper. With the exception of four months spent as a Clerk in the State Legislature during the session of the Thirty-second General Assembly, he remained in this capacity until July, 1882. He then leased the plant of the *Chronicle*, the "Daily" then having been started only three months before. Its continuation was consequently an uncertainty.

Mr. Warner, however, renewed his lease from year to year at the same time enlarging the circulation of the paper and introducing new facilities for the prosecution of job work. In 1887 he purchased the entire concern and the prospect is that the *Chronicle* and its appurtenances will continue to prosper and grow strong. In addition to this business, Mr. Warner is connected with the Illinois Canning Company of which he has been Secretary since its organization, in 1887. In the K. of P. he stands high, being the first Commander of his lodge. He has had no political aspirations for himself, but labors vigorously in behalf of the Republican party and is occasionally sent as a delegate to the various party conventions. His industry and good judgment are made serviceable in many respects in local affairs, both social and political. June 15, 1889, he was elected by his Republican friends, patrons of the Hoopeston post-office, to the position of Postmaster. He was immediately appointed by President Harrison and now holds that position.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Lillian M. Clark was celebrated at the bride's home in Hoopeston, Dec. 13, 1883. Mrs. Warner is a native of Wenona, this State and was born May 9, 1864. She came to Hoopeston with her parents in 1873. The latter were W. R. and Henrietta B. (Fitton) Clark, who continue residents of this place. She is possessed of great skill as an artist and decorator.

The parents of our subject were Abner and Mary (Cadwallader) Warner, the former of whom was born in Ross County, Ohio, April 11, 1811. He spent his boyhood and youth in the Buckeye State and prior to his marriage removed to Indiana, settling near Crawfordsville where he met Miss Cadwallader and they were married March 9, 1851. Mr. Warner was a farmer by occupation during his early manhood, but after his removal to Rossville engaged in mercantile business which he prosecuted until 1876. He then retired from active business and departed this life July 15, 1888. He was a plain and unassuming man and a member of the Society of Friends.

The mother of our subject was born near Crawfordsville, Ind., and lived there with her parents until her marriage. Her union with Mr. Warner resulted in the birth of four children, only two of whom are living—our subject, and Perry M., the latter residing on a farm near Rossville, and the mother makes her home with him. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Isaac Warner, a native of Philadelphia. Early in life he emigrated to Ohio where he became the owner of land and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He married Miss Mary Winder, who also died in Ohio.

ALBERT G. OLMSTED is a worthy descendant of Puritan ancestry, his forefathers having been numbered among the early settlers of New England. In a later day and generation his grandparents and parents became pioneers of Vermilion County, and here the most of his life has been passed. He has not only been a witness of the marvelous growth of this section of the county in the fifty years that he has lived here as boy and man, but it has been his good fortune to aid in its upbuilding. For many

years he has been intimately connected with the material prosperity of Catlin Township as a progressive and skillful agriculturist, and as one of its most influential public officers. He owns a farm on section 23, that in all its appointments and improvements is equal to any other in this locality, and here he and his wife have an attractive home, to which they welcome many friends, as they have a warm place in the hearts of the entire community.

Stanley Olmsted, the father of our subject, was born in the city of Hartford, Conn., to George Olmsted, Sr., and his wife, Hannah (Roberts) Olmsted, natives of New England. They came to Vermilion County from Ohio in 1839, and he died here two years later. His wife did not long survive him, dying in September, 1843. Their son, Stanley, married Almira Green, a native of Vermont, and they began the journey of life together in Jamestown, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., where he was busily engaged for several years in constructing a farm from the primeval forests of that section of the country. He subsequently removed from there with his family to Marietta, Washington Co., Ohio, but after living there five years, he came with them, in 1839, to Vermilion County, making the journey down the Ohio River, up the Wabash River to Perrysville, and thence going to what is now known as Batestown, and settling in that vicinity among the pioneers that had preceded them to this then wild, sparsely settled country. The father operated a sawmill known as Olmsted Mill, and besides manufacturing lumber, engaged in building flatboats, that being the only mill where such boats were built, and the most of those that were made in this section of the country were built there. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and quite a prominent man in his community, and his death, in 1848, was considered a loss to the township. His widow was re-married about ten years afterwards, becoming the wife of Thomas W. Douglas, and is still living in Catlin Township at an advanced age. She holds to the Presbyterian faith, and is a sincere Christian.

Of the ten children that blessed the union of Stanley Omsted and wife, our subject was the second in order of birth. He was born in the vicinity of Jamestown, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., Oct. 14, 1831. He was a lad of about eight years when he accompanied his parents and grandparents to this county, and the remaining years of his boyhood and his youth were passed in Danville and Catlin townships. His education was obtained in the old log school-house of those early days. He early began life for himself, as he was but seventeen years of age when his father died, and the main charge of the family devolved upon him, he renting land and working at farming to support those dependent upon him. When he was twenty-four years old he married and rented a farm in Catlin Township the ensuing seven years, the place belonging to Harry Sandusky. After that he bought a small place in Catlin Village, and continued renting land for three years. The second year after the purchase of the County Farm in 1867, he was appointed Superintendent of it, and he was found to be the right man in the right place, faithfully and conscienciously discharging the duties of that onerous position, by his skillful farming improving the land, and treating the poor people under his charge with firmness and kindness. He retained that office eight years, and then tendered his resignation, as he decided to invest some of his money in land and go to farming on his own account. Soon after he took possession of the land he now owns and operates, it having been the homestead of the parents of Mrs. Omsted, of which she inherited a portion. The balance was purchased by Mr. Omsted. His present farm consists of 180 acres of land, exceedingly rich and productive, and he has been constantly making improvements till the place is considered one of the best in the neighborhood. He has erected a good set of farm buildings and a pleasant residence, finely located somewhat back from the highway.

This homestead formerly belonged to Mrs. Olmsted's parents, Thomas N. and Mary Brown (Sandusky) Wright, early pioneers of Vermilion County, and here she was born and bred, and on this spot, under an apple tree in the yard, her marriage with our subject was solemnized July 22, 1855, and here her life has thus far been spent happily and serenely. She has never been very far from this home of her birth, and has never ridden in the

cars, or even beyond the limits of the county. Mrs. Olmsted is a notable housekeeper, and is well versed in the art of making those about her comfortable, and everyone who crosses her threshhold is sure of a cheerful welcome. Her parents were born in Bourbon County, Ky., and when the father was nineteen years old and the mother twenty, they came to Vermilion County, and were united in marriage six weeks later, in the year 1831, near Indianola, and immediately settled on the farm now owned by Mr. Olmsted. Mr. Wright built a log cabin, and in that humble abode they began their wedded life. May 31, 1851, Mrs. Wright died, leaving five children, of whom Elizabeth Ann, Mrs. Olmsted, was the eldest. The father was afterwards married to Nancy Dougherty, and he died Nov. 18, 1872, on the homestead that he had eliminated from the wild prairies. Mrs. Olmsted was born Sept. 22, 1832. In this home of her girlhood and womanhood five children have blessed her wedded life with our subject, namely: Mary B., the wife of John H. Palmer; Charles, who married Agnes Emmett, who died Nov. 17, 1887; William C., who married Miss Eva Beck; George E.; and Albert C.

Mr. Olmsted has been a valuable citizen of this section of Vermilion County since attaining manhood, as he is a man of good personal habits, is just and honest in his dealings, wise and safe in counsel, and has always exerted his influence to advance the interests of his community morally, socially and educationally. He has taken an active part in the public life of this township, has held the office of Supervisor two terms, and for eleven years was School Trustee. He is a valued member of Catlin Lodge No. 285, A. F. & A. M. He has been Master of the lodge. In politics he sides with the Democrats, and is a strong supporter of party principles. Both he and his wife are faithful members of the Presbyterian Church, and the acts of their daily lives show them to be consistent Christians.

A fine lithographic view of the handsome home and surroundings of Mr. Olmsted is shown elsewhere in this volume.

WILLIAM W. BARR. This highly-esteemed old resident of Edgar County has had a broad experience of Western life and during his younger years spent some time in the mining regions of California and Montana. He suffered the usual experiences of the travel across the plains in the early times, coming in contact with all kinds of men and frequently encountering danger from Indians and the cosmopolitan population which sought that region from most all portions of the civilized world. He, however, was mainly prosperous in his undertaking and would probably have sojourned there longer, but was constrained to return on account of his aged mother for whom he cared a number of years until her death. His present homestead is a well-regulated farm of 120 acres, lying on section 1 in Edgar Township and he stands well among the people of his community.

Mr. Barr was born twenty-five miles from the city of Cincinnati, in Hamilton County, Ohio, April 14, 1824. When a child of six years his parents emigrated to Illinois overland with teams of horses and oxen, crossing the Wabash River at Perryville where they spent the winter. In the spring of 1831 they came to Edgar County, Ill. and settled on a tract of wild land, that which constitutes the present farm of our subject, and for a number of years lived in a log cabin. The Pottawatomie Indians had not yet left this region and our subject has seen as many as 300 at a time. There was an abundance of game including large numbers of deer, also wolves, and in hunting the latter the settlers frequently banded together.

Our subject was reared to manhood at the farm which he now occupies, growing up with limited school advantages, his studies being conducted in the log cabin mostly during the winter season. He remained under the home roof until twenty-one years old, then in the spring of 1845 started on foot for the Galena lead mines accompanied by a friend. Sometimes they would walk nearly a whole day without seeing a single house. Upon his arrival at Janesville, Wis., Mr. Barr abandoned his first intention of lead mining and engaged to work on a farm. He remained in the Badger State until the fall of the year and rode home in a wagon.

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TO

PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM

—OF—

VERMILION COUNTY, ILLINOIS,

CONTAINING

Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens of the County

This portion taken from the book Portrait and Biographical album of Vermilion and Edgar Counties, Illinois

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